

Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee

Thursday 16 February 2017 at 4.00 pm

**To be held at the Town Hall, Pinstone
Street, Sheffield, S1 2HH**

The Press and Public are Welcome to Attend

Membership

Councillors Tony Damms (Chair), Nasima Akther, Sue Auckland, Michelle Cook, Richard Crowther, Dawn Dale, Keith Davis, Tony Downing, Adam Hanrahan, Mark Jones, George Lindars-Hammond, Magid Magid, Anne Murphy, Richard Shaw (Deputy Chair) and Zoe Sykes

Substitute Members

In accordance with the Constitution, Substitute Members may be provided for the above Committee Members as and when required.

PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE MEETING

The Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Committee exercises an overview and scrutiny function in respect of the planning, development and monitoring of performance and delivery of services which aim to make Sheffield a safer, stronger and more sustainable city for all of its residents.

A copy of the agenda and reports is available on the Council's website at www.sheffield.gov.uk. You can also see the reports to be discussed at the meeting if you call at the First Point Reception, Town Hall, Pinstone Street entrance. The Reception is open between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Thursday and between 9.00 am and 4.45 pm. on Friday. You may not be allowed to see some reports because they contain confidential information. These items are usually marked * on the agenda.

Members of the public have the right to ask questions or submit petitions to Scrutiny Committee meetings and recording is allowed under the direction of the Chair. Please see the website or contact Democratic Services for further information regarding public questions and petitions and details of the Council's protocol on audio/visual recording and photography at council meetings.

Scrutiny Committee meetings are normally open to the public but sometimes the Committee may have to discuss an item in private. If this happens, you will be asked to leave. Any private items are normally left until last. If you would like to attend the meeting please report to the First Point Reception desk where you will be directed to the meeting room.

If you require any further information about this Scrutiny Committee, please contact Diane Owens, Policy and Improvement Officer, on 0114 2735065 or email diane.owens@sheffield.gov.uk

FACILITIES

There are public toilets available, with wheelchair access, on the ground floor of the Town Hall. Induction loop facilities are available in meeting rooms.

Access for people with mobility difficulties can be obtained through the ramp on the side to the main Town Hall entrance.

**SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY AND POLICY
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA
16 FEBRUARY 2017**

Order of Business

- 1. Welcome and Housekeeping Arrangements**
- 2. Apologies for Absence**
- 3. Exclusion of Public and Press**
To identify items where resolutions may be moved to exclude the press and public
- 4. Declarations of Interest**
Members to declare any interests they have in the business to be considered at the meeting
- 5. Minutes of Previous Meeting**
To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 8th December, 2016.
- 6. Public Questions and Petitions**
To receive any questions or petitions from members of the public
- 7. Safer and Sustainable Communities Partnership**
Report of the Director of Housing and Neighbourhood Services.
- 8. Neighbourhood Working: A new Approach for Sheffield**
Report of the Head of Libraries and Community Services.
- 9. Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Hate Crime Task Group**
Report of the Hate Crime Task Group
- 10. Work Programme**
Report of the Policy and Improvement Officer

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

- 11. Hate Crime and Hate Incidents 1st February 2015 - 30th January 2017**
Report of the Partnership and Performance Manager
- 12. Date of Next Meeting**
The next meeting of the Committee will be held at 4.00 p.m. on Thursday, 6th April, 2017 in the Town Hall

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ADVICE TO MEMBERS ON DECLARING INTERESTS AT MEETINGS

If you are present at a meeting of the Council, of its executive or any committee of the executive, or of any committee, sub-committee, joint committee, or joint sub-committee of the authority, and you have a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI)** relating to any business that will be considered at the meeting, you must not:

- participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, or if you become aware of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the meeting, participate further in any discussion of the business, or
- participate in any vote or further vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

These prohibitions apply to any form of participation, including speaking as a member of the public.

You **must**:

- leave the room (in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct)
- make a verbal declaration of the existence and nature of any DPI at any meeting at which you are present at which an item of business which affects or relates to the subject matter of that interest is under consideration, at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent.
- declare it to the meeting and notify the Council's Monitoring Officer within 28 days, if the DPI is not already registered.

If you have any of the following pecuniary interests, they are your **disclosable pecuniary interests** under the new national rules. You have a pecuniary interest if you, or your spouse or civil partner, have a pecuniary interest.

- Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain, which you, or your spouse or civil partner undertakes.
- Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from your council or authority) made or provided within the relevant period* in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

*The relevant period is the 12 months ending on the day when you tell the Monitoring Officer about your disclosable pecuniary interests.

- Any contract which is made between you, or your spouse or your civil partner (or a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest) and your council or authority –
 - under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
 - which has not been fully discharged.

- Any beneficial interest in land which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, have and which is within the area of your council or authority.
- Any licence (alone or jointly with others) which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, holds to occupy land in the area of your council or authority for a month or longer.
- Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) –
 - the landlord is your council or authority; and
 - the tenant is a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest.
- Any beneficial interest which you, or your spouse or your civil partner has in securities of a body where -
 - (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of your council or authority; and
 - (b) either -
 - the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
 - if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

If you attend a meeting at which any item of business is to be considered and you are aware that you have a **personal interest** in the matter which does not amount to a DPI, you must make verbal declaration of the existence and nature of that interest at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent. You should leave the room if your continued presence is incompatible with the 7 Principles of Public Life (selflessness; integrity; objectivity; accountability; openness; honesty; and leadership).

You have a personal interest where –

- a decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial standing (including interests in land and easements over land) of you or a member of your family or a person or an organisation with whom you have a close association to a greater extent than it would affect the majority of the Council Tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward or electoral area for which you have been elected or otherwise of the Authority's administrative area, or
- it relates to or is likely to affect any of the interests that are defined as DPIs but are in respect of a member of your family (other than a partner) or a person with whom you have a close association.

Guidance on declarations of interest, incorporating regulations published by the Government in relation to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, has been circulated to you previously.

You should identify any potential interest you may have relating to business to be considered at the meeting. This will help you and anyone that you ask for advice to fully consider all the circumstances before deciding what action you should take.

In certain circumstances the Council may grant a **dispensation** to permit a Member to take part in the business of the Authority even if the member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest relating to that business.

To obtain a dispensation, you must write to the Monitoring Officer at least 48 hours before the meeting in question, explaining why a dispensation is sought and desirable, and specifying the period of time for which it is sought. The Monitoring Officer may consult with the Independent Person or the Council's Audit and Standards Committee in relation to a request for dispensation.

Further advice can be obtained from Gillian Duckworth, Director of Legal and Governance on 0114 2734018 or email gillian.duckworth@sheffield.gov.uk.

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Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee

Meeting held 8 December 2016

PRESENT: Councillors Tony Damms (Chair), Nasima Akther, Sue Auckland, Michelle Cook, Richard Crowther, Dawn Dale, Keith Davis, Tony Downing, Adam Hanrahan, Magid Magid, Anne Murphy and Richard Shaw (Deputy Chair)

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1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 An apology for absence was received from Councillor George Lindars-Hammond.

2. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

2.1 No items were identified where resolutions may be moved to exclude the public and press.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3.1 In relation to Agenda Item 7 (Welfare Reform Update), Councillor Nasima Akther declared a Personal Interest as she was a volunteer with the Citizens Advice Bureau.

3.2 In relation to Agenda Item 9 (Financial Inclusion), Councillor Dawn Dale declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest as she was employed by the Manor and Castle Development Trust but felt that her interest was not prejudicial in view of the nature of the report and chose to remain in the meeting during consideration of the item.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 20th October, 2016, were approved as a correct record.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

5.1 There were no public questions or petitions.

6. CHALLENGE FOR CHANGE: THE COUNCIL HOUSING SERVICE'S PREPARATION FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UNIVERSAL CREDIT

6.1 The Committee received a report of the Challenge for Change (C4C) Customer Scrutiny Panel's project on the Council Housing Service's preparation for the implementation of the Universal Credit (UC).

6.2 The purpose of the project was to investigate the Council's Housing Service's preparation for the implementation of UC, its impact on tenants, and to undertake

reality checks with Council staff, other local authorities and stakeholder groups to see how its performance compared.

6.3 In attendance for this item were Tina Gilbert (Assistant Manager, Communities), Linda Moxon and Ian Alexander (C4C representatives).

6.4 The objectives of the project were to establish:-

- How the Council's Housing Service work with other organisations e.g. Credit Union, Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB).
- Which parts of the country had been dealing with this already and what had they done.
- How effective had the Council's efforts been so far.
- What efforts had been made to encourage the use of direct debit, as this was considered to be a major public relations objective.
- What impact would this have on Housing + and the Housing Service's resources.

6.5 The findings of the Panel were that:-

- Support resources for customers were available.
- There was good networking with other agencies.
- The use of direct debit was actively encouraged, where appropriate.
- A measured approach was being taken to the uptake of UC.
- The City Council was following the best practice of other local authorities.
- There was a suspicion that awareness/knowledge about UC would not be properly developed until it was made necessary by claimants.
- There was concern that the introduction of UC may have an impact on eviction rates.
- Housing+ would be able to support customers needing support.

6.6 Members made various comments and asked a number of questions, to which responses were provided as follows:-

- The Housing Service would continue to campaign to get customers to use direct debit and integrate advice into the role of Housing+

- The Service would maintain its strong working relationship with DWP.
- UC awareness campaigns would be undertaken using the Council's communications channels.
- The Service was doing all it could to warn customers of the negative aspects of money lenders.
- Regular reviews of the impact of UC would be undertaken by the Housing Service.

6.7 RESOLVED: That the Committee:-

- (a) thanks Tina Gilbert, Linda Moxon and Ian Alexander for their attendance;
- (b) notes the contents of the report, comments made and responses to questions; and
- (c) requests that a Family Tree of the organisations involved in the implementation of Universal Credit be circulated to Committee Members.

7. WELFARE REFORM UPDATE

7.1 The Committee received a report of the Director of Policy, Performance and Communications which set out the most significant current and future welfare/benefit changes and provided some information about how these had been addressed by the City Council and its partners.

7.2 In attendance for this item were Cat Arnold (Policy and Improvement Officer) and Maxine Stavrianakos, (Head of Neighbourhood Intervention and Tenant Support).

7.3 Cat Arnold introduced the report and stated that, at the moment, there were only a small number of customers in Sheffield claiming Universal Credit (UC), with full roll out due to take place from July 2018. Full budgeting and digital support was available for those moving onto Universal Credit. She added that Personal Independence Payments (PIPs) had started to replace Disability Living Allowance and, at the moment, the initial impact seemed to be manageable in Sheffield. However, evidence suggested that in other regions, the introduction of PIP had led to a reduction in the awards made. With regard to the lower Benefit Cap, Cat Arnold stated that from January 2017, it was anticipated that there would be a rise from 113 households affected, to approximately 900.

7.4 Members made various comments and asked a number of questions, to which responses were provided as follows:-

- There were about 400+ Council tenants, mainly single, working-age people, affected at the moment by the introduction of UC. Once the full digital service was introduced in July 2018, the number of those affected would become clearer and the Council was working closely with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) to ensure that the most vulnerable

customers received as much support as possible. It was anticipated that when the full migration onto UC had taken place, there could be at least 30,000 residents affected across the city by 2021-22.

- With regard to Council tenants in debt, there was an independent dedicated debt worker based at the Citizen's Advice Bureau (CAB) is funded from the Housing Revenue Account (HRA), to help those in need. Some other social landlords in the city provide a similar service with the CAB.
- Joint meetings are held with Registered Social Landlords (RSLs') and representatives of the CAB to ensure that the message was getting through, and that there was an equal level of support given to tenants by these landlords. As well as supporting tenants, it was important for the RSLs' income collection and their business models.
- It was not known exactly how many single tenants under the age of 35 lived in Sheffield, but information on this could be compiled and would be circulated to Committee Members.

7.5 RESOLVED: That the Committee:-

- (a) thanks those attending for their contribution to the meeting;
- (b) notes the contents of the report together with the comments made and the responses provided; and
- (c) requests that (i) a report on the costs incurred by the Council when carrying out an eviction, including rehousing after the eviction, be submitted to the Committee in March/April, 2017 and (ii) a report on how the recently announced Autumn Statement was affecting tenants and the financial impact of these changes on the HRA, be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

8. FINANCIAL INCLUSION

- 8.1 The Committee received a report of the Director of Policy, Performance and Communications on Financial Inclusion. This was supported by a presentation given by Cat Arnold, (Policy and Improvement Officer), which provided an outline of early thinking on the development of a new financial inclusion strategy for Sheffield and a brief overview of the evidence for financial exclusion and a potential framework for building greater financial resilience.
- 8.2 Also in attendance for this item was Maxine Stavrianakos (Head of Neighbourhood Intervention and Tenant Support).
- 8.3 Cat Arnold took the Committee through the circulated presentation, making reference to what Financial Inclusion was, the drafting of the Financial Inclusion Strategy, what was being done locally and nationally, understanding financial inclusion in the UK and Sheffield, the plan for a financially inclusive City and aspects under consideration.

8.4 Members made various comments and asked a number of questions, to which responses were provided as follows:-

- People don't tend to trust the Council or private landlords and would rather struggle than approach anyone for help, and there was a need, possibly through financial education in schools, to prepare people as to what they might face as adults.
- The vision for the Financial Inclusion Strategy was that financial inclusion was a continuum which helped in considering how financially resilient individuals or households were in order to understand the different challenges people face and the type of support needed to become financially included.
- The Council and the CAB offered advice on ways of getting the best deals from the utility companies.
- Grants were available to enable people to purchase white goods and this information was available by phone or on the Council's website. The voluntary sector also offers support, as do some social landlords.

8.5 RESOLVED: That the Committee noted the presentation and thanked Cat Arnold for her attendance.

9. HATE CRIME TASK GROUP

9.1 The Chair reported that the investigation into Hate Crime had finished and that a report would be submitted to the meeting of the Committee to be held in February, 2017.

10. WORK PROGRAMME 2016/17

10.1 The Committee received a report of the Policy and Improvement Officer which set out the Committee's Work Programme for 2016/17.

10.2 RESOLVED: That the Committee:-

- (a) notes the Work Programme 2016/17 as set out in the report;
- (b) notes that, as requested earlier at the meeting, items on the cost of evictions and the impact of the Government's Autumn Statement on tenants and the Housing Revenue Account, be added to the Work Programme for consideration at a convenient date; and
- (c) requests that consideration be given to the creation of a pending tray in which non-urgent items would be placed and subsequently considered if they become a priority.

11. HATE CRIME AND HATE INCIDENTS: 1 NOVEMBER 2014 - 31 OCTOBER

2016

- 11.1 RESOLVED: That the Committee notes the contents of the Hate Crime and Hate Incidents 1st November 2014 to 31st October, 2016 report.

12. WRITTEN RESPONSES TO PUBLIC QUESTIONS

- 12.1 RESOLVED: That the Committee notes the contents of the Written Responses to Public Questions report.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 13.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on Thursday, 16th February, 2017, at 4.00 pm, in the Town Hall.



Report to: Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee Thursday 16th February 2017

Report of: Director of Housing and Neighbourhoods Service

Subject: Safer and Sustainable Communities Partnership

Author of Report: Maxine Stavrianakos, Head of Neighbourhood Intervention and Tenant Support
Julia Cayless, Partnership and Performance Manager,
Safer and Sustainable Communities Partnership

Summary:

This annual update on the work of the Safer and Sustainable Communities Partnership is presented to the Scrutiny Committee for information.

It describes the priorities and key issues faced by the Partnership over the last year and looking ahead to 2017/18.

Type of item: The report author should tick the appropriate box

Reviewing of existing policy	
Informing the development of new policy	
Statutory consultation	
Performance / budget monitoring report	
Cabinet request for scrutiny	
Full Council request for scrutiny	
Community Assembly request for scrutiny	
Call-in of Cabinet decision	
Briefing paper for the Scrutiny Committee	
Other – annual update presentation	x

The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:

The Committee is asked to consider the presentation and provide any comment on the work of the Safer and Sustainable Communities Partnership

Documents included:

- Safer & Sustainable Communities Partnership - Presentation: **Appendix A**
- Safer and Sustainable Communities Partnership Plan (2016): **Appendix B**

Category of Report: OPEN

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Safer and Stronger Scrutiny Committee

16 February 2017



Sheffield Safer and Sustainable Communities Partnership

- Statutory Community Safety Partnership
 - Lead by Police and Local Authority
 - Bring together expertise, knowledge, consistency of action
- Statutory requirement to have a local strategy for tackling community safety issues



Community Safety Priorities

- Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment of 12 months crime and disorder information
- Partnership Plan 2014-17, refreshed annually.
- 2016/17 priorities:
 - Crime: Hate crime, Burglary, Violent crime
 - Vulnerable people: Those who are vulnerable due to domestic abuse, ASB
 - High risk: organised crime and its links to other crimes
 - High impact: preventing child sexual exploitation, preventing people from radicalisation or extremism

Budget for community safety 2016/17

- £450k PCC grant to address PCC priorities:
 - PCSOs
 - Partnership analyst
 - Supporting and protecting vulnerable people
- £75k SCC community safety
 - Support and advice for new arrivals to Sheffield
 - Specific projects in localities to prevent and reduce crime and ASB



Budget 2017/18

- Reduction since 2016/17
- Fit with PCC priorities, response to emerging issues
- New Partnership Plan (strategy) for 2017-20 in development, informed by findings of JSIA



Current performance

- Overall crime levels are unchanged over the last year and many crime types are reducing
- Lower than the average for the Most Similar Group
- Youth re-offending has decreased, as well as young people entering custody.

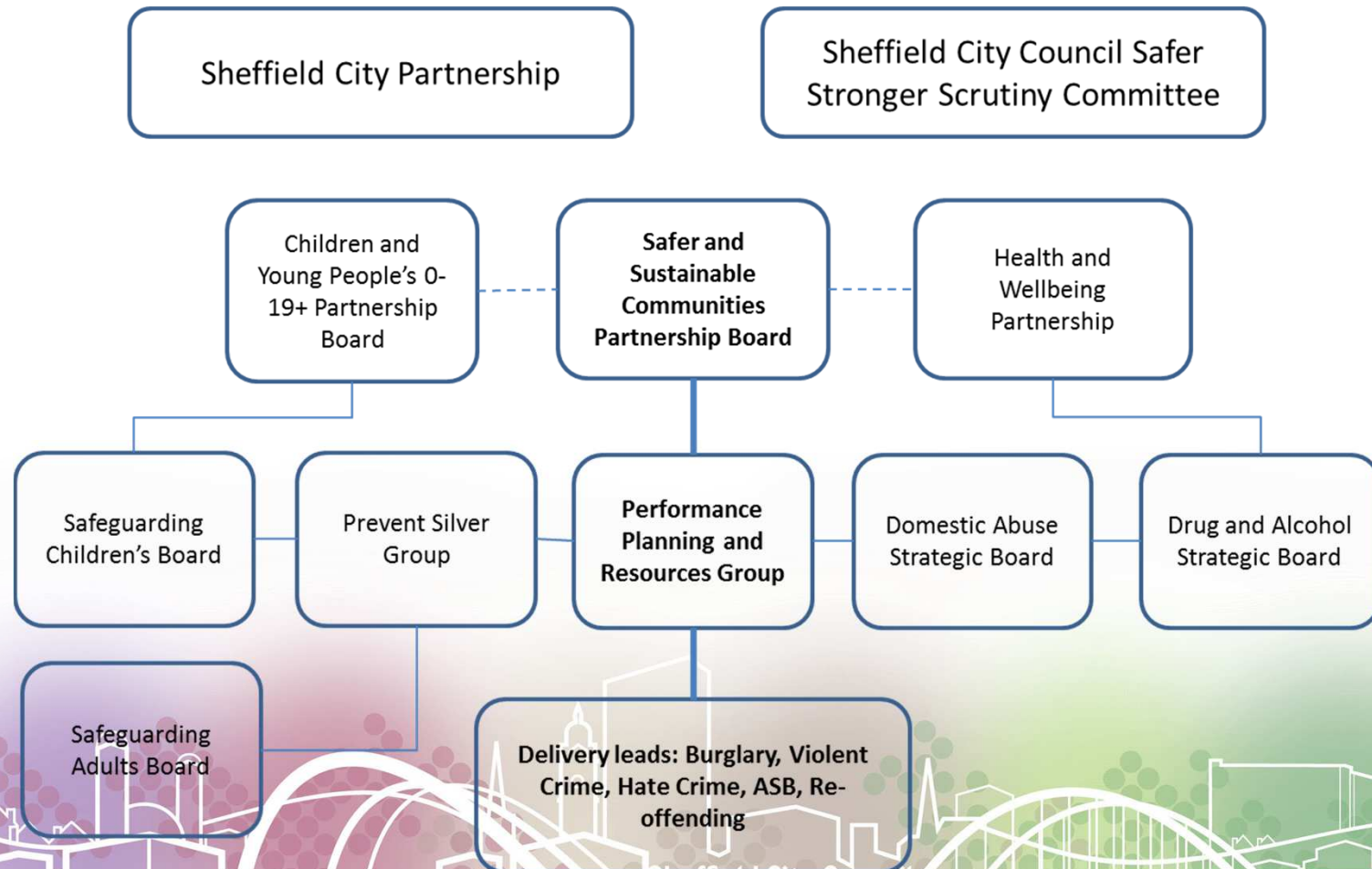


Performance

- Burglary remains a challenge
- Hate crime increasing but numbers are small and reporting is being encouraged among all communities and protected groups
- Some anti-social behaviour increasing



Changing partnership landscape



New multi-agency team

- Brings together some existing community safety team staff and housing anti-social behaviour enforcement officers, housing wardens and South Yorkshire Police in a co-located multi-agency team
- Plans for further resources to support partnership priorities



Communications

- New SYP structures in 2017, neighbourhood policing
- Members will be kept informed of developments
- Relevant local issues (anonymised) communicated as necessary



Restorative Justice

- Brings together those harmed and those who are responsible together to find a positive way forward.
- Mediation used by Housing to resolve neighbour disputes
- Community Justice Panels for low level crime and neighbour disputes
- Street RJ delivered by the Police

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Safer and Sustainable Communities Partnership Plan 2014-17



Introduction

The Sheffield First Safer and Sustainable Communities Partnership is the city's Community Safety Partnership with statutory responsibilities established under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The partnership has a legal responsibility to produce a plan to tackle crime, anti-social behaviour and drug and alcohol misuse. The plan must be sent to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

The Partnership Plan has been developed from the challenges identified in the Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment, which includes a variety of statistics and other information. This plan covers the period 2014-17. It has been written using the findings from the Partnership's Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessments and has been reviewed in 2015 and 2016 to ensure it remains an accurate description of the Partnership's priorities.

Priorities linking to this Partnership Plan

The Police and Crime Commissioner Plan 2013-17 describes the policing priorities for South Yorkshire and was reviewed in 2016. The overarching aim is that South Yorkshire will be and feel a safe place to live, learn and work.

The Police and Crime Commissioner's Priorities are:

- Protecting Vulnerable People:
 - Effective action tackling child sexual exploitation
 - Effective response to new and evolving threats to the most vulnerable people
 - Appropriate response by police and justice services to those suffering mental health issues
- Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour:
 - Effective action tackling crime, anti-social behaviour and re-offending
 - Targeted response to those that cause most harm in the community and intervention with others before they enter the criminal justice system
 - Prioritising the crime and behaviours that cause the most harm in the community
 - Finding the outcomes for victims of crime and anti-social behaviour
- Enabling fair treatment:
 - Planned engagement that seeks public feedback to inform the delivery of policing and crime services
 - Deploying resources to areas of highest demand based on threat, harm and risk
 - Finding ways to understand and address appropriately feelings of safety
 - Services that inspire trust in the general public
 - Recognise staff confidence and morale and adherence to codes of ethics and professional practice as central to delivering an efficient and effective police service

The Sheffield City Strategy, *Sheffield 2020*, key ambitions are:

Distinctive
Inclusive
Sustainable

Successful
Vibrant

Current and Emerging threats

The changing patterns of demand and continuing impact of required savings will mean that partnership working will be of increased importance in the year ahead. It will be a key challenge for the Partnership and its organisations to ensure they can respond to demand for services whilst acknowledging that resources are reduced and structures have changed.

Overall Crime

The overall level of reported crime has remained static over the past year. There have been good reductions in most forms of acquisitive crime. The volume of sexual and violent offences has risen significantly but the increases are in line with trends observed nationally and are mainly attributed to increased levels of reporting and changes and improvements to data recording.

Serious Acquisitive Crime

Despite significant reductions in burglary dwelling in the past year, Sheffield continues to record comparatively high volumes of offences. A three-month partnership operation has achieved a large reduction in offences in Gleadless Valley, which was the worst hit ward in 2014/15. Vehicle crime has continued to reduce, with offences in the city centre falling by a third. The level of personal robbery offences has also reduced.

Other Acquisitive Crime

The level of burglary at premises other than a dwelling have continued to reduce; offences at residential premises (shed and garages) have seen the greatest reduction. Sheffield continues to perform well against comparator areas for burglary other. The volume of shoplifting has increased but this corresponds with trends seen at MSG level and the volume in Sheffield remains in line with the MSG average. The city records above average levels of Theft From the Person but the volume of offences has declined by almost 15% in the last year.

Violence Against the Person

Sheffield has recorded further increases in the level of violent crime over the past year, but these correspond with trends observed elsewhere and the city continues to perform well when measured against comparator areas. Over 20% of violent crime takes place within the city centre; Burngreave ward records a further 9%. Domestic violence services have expanded in 2015-16 thanks to investment from the OPCC and the council, however demand continues to rise. Public order offences have recorded a significant increase in the last year and this trend is expected to continue.

Hate Crime

The volume of recorded Hate crime and incidents has increased by a fifth in the last year, but comparison with similar areas indicates that the rate remains exceptionally low for a city the size of Sheffield.

Serious and Organised Crime, Organised Crime Groups and Urban Street Gangs

Activity relating to organised crime groups (OCGs) and urban street gangs (USG) is evident across South Yorkshire. The Partnership has identified a need to improve information sharing to ensure that appropriate multi-agency disruption and intervention can be carried out.

Sexual Offences and Child Sexual Exploitation

The volume of sexual offences increased significantly in the last year but these increases are consistent with national trends and Sheffield continues to record low levels of offences in relation to comparator areas. The volume of historic offences has increased in the last year but the increase is mainly driven by current offences. Child sexual exploitation remains a priority for both the PCC and SYP; the level of referrals received by the Sheffield Sexual Exploitation Team has been higher than the volumes at each of the other South Yorkshire Local Authorities.

Drug Misuse and Offending

The volume of recorded drug related offences has reduced in the past year, which continues the long-term trend of decline. In the last year, Sheffield has seen an increase in the number of people in effective drug treatment. The percentage of opiate users who leave drug treatment successfully is slightly below the national average; for non-opiate users Sheffield is above the average. There is an ongoing issue with the use and sale of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS), also known as 'legal highs'; a partnership operation carried out in 2015 was successful at targeting retailers of these substances. Legislative changes will be in place from 1 April 2016 which will make it harder for retailers to sell these substances and should support ongoing work to address the issue.

Alcohol Misuse

Alcohol treatment services are due to be re-tendered during 2016/17, and at present all key targets are on track to be met for 2015/16. The Sheffield Alcohol Strategy for 2016 – 2020 is currently in draft form and will be present to full Cabinet in early 2016. One this has been approved an action plan will be put in place.

Criminal Damage and Arson

Criminal damage and arson offences have been falling for some time, but the rate of reduction appears to have slowed as this year reports a slight increase. Sheffield remains below the MSG average for offences and has the third lowest rate of fire incidents out of the eight Core Cities. The increase have been seen in offences committed against other property (not dwellings or vehicles), and domestic related offences have also increased. The increase in offences during last years 'Dark Nights' period was lower than in previous years which could suggests that targeted partnership interventions are proving effective. SYFR are noticing an increasing trend of arson offences targeted towards individuals, and have recently reported an increase in attacks on fire crews.

The Partnership's priorities in 2016

CRIME:

Hate crime is increasing in Sheffield but the numbers of those reporting it are very low and the ability to interrogate the information we have in order to know more about it, is limited. We are not currently able to make peer comparisons about overall hate crime.

Burglary continues to be a challenge in Sheffield. Although performance has improved and domestic burglary figures have declined, Sheffield remains one of the worst performing areas in its Most Similar Group .

Violent crime has been increasing over the last year, and although much of the increase can be attributed to the improvements to recording practice, there are strong links between violence and many other issues that can have an impact on communities in the city; for example, domestic abuse, organised crime, anti-social behaviour and the night time economy. Sheffield remains below average when compared to its peers but the challenge presented by increasing figures should be monitored.

VULNERABLE PEOPLE:

Those who are vulnerable for a variety of reasons and factors and are at risk of repeat **anti-social behaviour**, those who are experiencing or have experienced **domestic abuse** should be safeguarded against. It is important that we are able to learn from investigations into deaths as a result of domestic abuse. Improvements to the reporting mechanisms and services offered to tackle domestic abuse have made a great difference in the last few years. Continued focus on effective reporting and increasing capacity will ensure vulnerable people receive adequate support and lessons are learnt from domestic homicides in the city and in other areas.

HIGH RISK/HIGH IMPACT:

The risk to the city and its communities by serious and **organised crime** groups is increasing and has strong links with other forms of violent crime, fraud, domestic abuse, modern slavery and the risks to young people on the periphery of this activity of becoming involved in anti-social behaviour, gangs and more serious crime.

Child sexual exploitation has a high impact on victims and continues to receive a high level of focus by the Police and Crime Commissioner as well as media interest which has assisted in encouraging historical victims to come forward and report abuse.

There is now a statutory duty for partners to prevent people from becoming involved in or supporting terrorism.

How will the Partnership direct funding in 2016/17?

The Safer and Sustainable Communities Partnership can direct a small amount of resource to help to tackle its priorities.

The amount that is available has been reducing year on year since 2010/11, in line with the reductions in budgets seen elsewhere.

In 2016/17, the Partnership budget is £225,000. This is made up of contributions from the Police and Crime Commissioner and Sheffield City Council.

In the face of reducing budgets, effective partnership working becomes essential, and there will be some issues that will have to tackle with little or no additional resource to add to the mainstream services. It is also likely that the discretionary budget will not continue past this year, so Partners will be making preparations to receive no additional funding beyond 2016/17.



Report to Safer & Stronger Communities Scrutiny Committee 16th February 2017

Report of: James Henderson
Director of Policy, Performance and Communications

Subject: Neighbourhood Working: a new approach for Sheffield

Author of Report: Dawn Shaw
Head of Libraries and Community Services
dawn.shaw@sheffield.gov.uk

Summary:

This presentation outlines initial thinking on a new approach to neighbourhood level working in Sheffield which will enhance the existing Local Area Partnership (LAPs) model and bring greater focus on developing community resilience across Sheffield.

There are five key principles underpinning the current thinking for an enhanced neighbourhoods approach:

1. Building on the strengths of the community
2. Achieving greater co-ordination and collaboration
3. Empowering and connecting people and agencies
4. Shaping improved local responses
5. Harnessing local insights to make better decisions

As set out in the presentation, the developing proposals build upon the strengths of the LAPs model and suggest that there is an opportunity to strengthen the support communities and Elected Members which would:

- establish strong neighbourhood level networks of residents, Councillors local stakeholders and agencies to help find solutions to local challenges
- use data and intelligence to hold services to account
- maximise the potential of online channels for local engagement and communication
- develop and make best use the distinct social and physical assets in communities
- develop local volunteering opportunities

It is suggested that a Cabinet paper will be brought forward in the coming months to establish a new way of working for Sheffield at neighbourhood level and this new model will then be reviewed after 12 months.

Type of item:

Reviewing of existing policy	
Informing the development of new policy	X
Statutory consultation	
Performance / budget monitoring report	
Cabinet request for scrutiny	
Full Council request for scrutiny	
Community Assembly request for scrutiny	
Call-in of Cabinet decision	
Briefing paper for the Scrutiny Committee	X
Other	

The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:

- note the developing thinking on a new approach to neighbourhood working in Sheffield
 - support the development of the new way of working by considering and providing comment on how the new approach could enhance community resilience and enable Councillors to meet the needs of their local communities.
-

Neighbourhood working: a new approach for Sheffield

Safer & Stronger Communities Scrutiny Committee

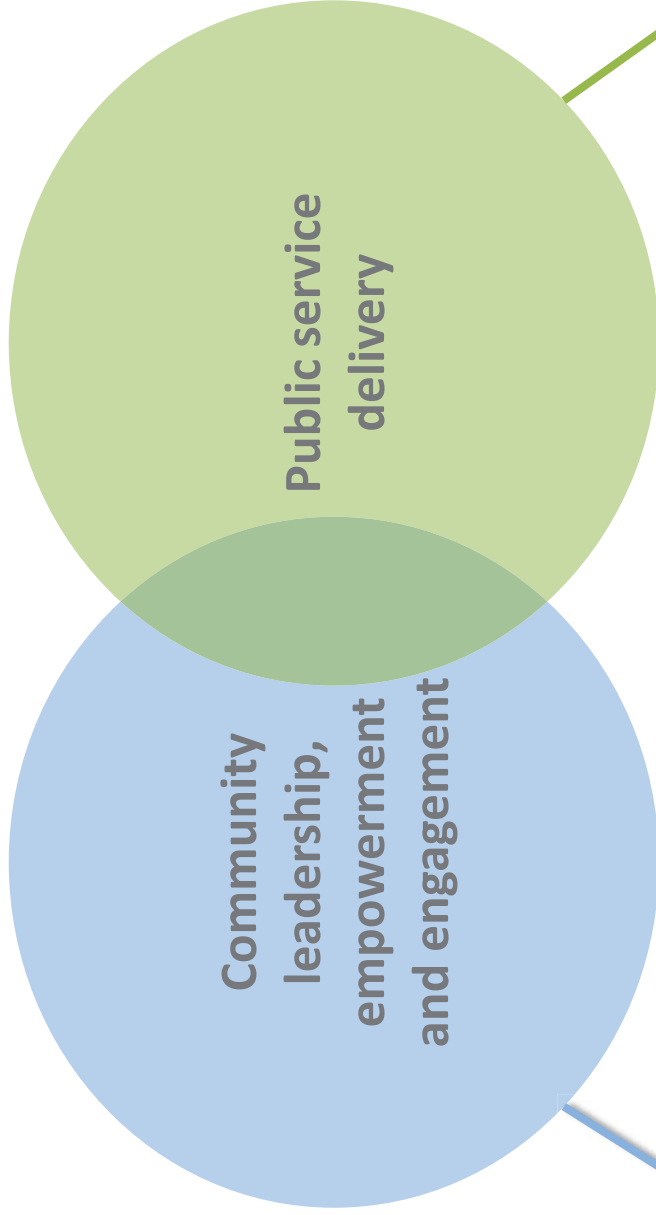
16th February 2017



Localities as a key way of working in Sheffield

- Sheffield is physically and socially diverse city
- Range of assets, strengths, needs and expectations across the city
- Social and economic change raises challenges for us which include:
 - How **people and communities** are empowered with a voice and can influence decisions that affect them
 - How **Elected Members** are empowered and supported to represent the needs of their constituents
 - How **services** are best delivered to meet increasingly diverse needs of individuals and families but done so in a way that is **sustainable and effective**

Neighbourhood working: two main strands



This is about creating community resilience and capacity with:

- Empowered and supported Members
- Full utilisation of social and physical community assets
- Stronger community networks
- Volunteering

Integrated public services around the needs of people and households:

- Harnessing capacity of public services and VCF sector to delivered tailored intervention based on needs
- The fundamental basis for prevention focused services and demand management
- Building on strengths of existing models
- Integration not duplication of service delivery
- Streamlining

This work focuses solely on the community leadership and community resilience

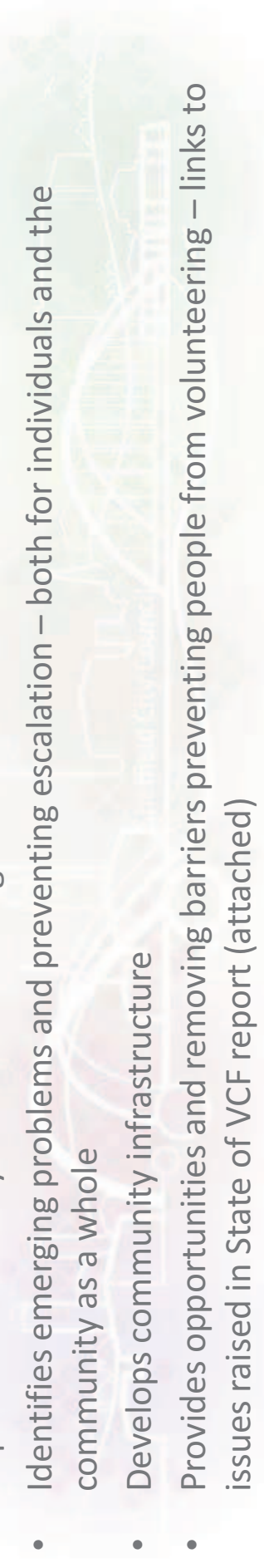


This is about creating community resilience and capacity with:

- Empowered and supported Members
- Full utilisation of social and physical community assets
- Stronger community networks
- Volunteering

The focus for this initial piece of work is how we develop an enhanced approach to locality working which:

- Strengthens links with communities – with Members at the heart of that
- Stronger intelligence and engagement between Members, the communities and services
- Works alongside our public service stakeholders and community partners at the community
- Builds resilience in neighbourhoods
- Maximises existing relationships across communities, sectors and partnerships
- Improves community cohesion and integration
- Identifies emerging problems and preventing escalation – both for individuals and the community as a whole
- Develops community infrastructure
- Provides opportunities and removing barriers preventing people from volunteering – links to issues raised in State of VCF report (attached)



How public services are delivered at locality level is critical...but this needs to be part of wider public service transformation



Integrated public services around the needs of people and households:

- Harnessing capacity of public services to delivered tailored intervention based on needs
- The fundamental basis for prevention focused services and demand management
- Building on strengths of existing models
- Integration not duplication of service delivery
- Streamlining

The way in which public services are shaped by people and delivered in places across the city is critical to achieving our social and economic ambitions for the city – as well as ensuring that public services are effective and financially sustainable for the long term.

This is a critical area of work for Sheffield but **not the focus of this proposal.**

The approach we take to local public service delivery in the city is part of a much wider programme involving our own key services and those delivered by public, private and VCF partners. It is a key part of our public service reform programme.

However, stronger democratic engagement, community development and local voice provides vital foundations to better and more preventative public services.

Present: learning from our current model

- Many SCC services and other agencies adopting neighbourhood / locality working – little coordination of efforts
- Fewer public sector resources – need for a community framework to ensure co-ordination of local service provision with accountability to Local councillors and communities.
- Some communities feeling left behind / forgotten

Problems with LAPs for Councillors:

- Top-down: “doing to”, not “doing with”
- Ward pot allocations consume significant resource for small scale investments - expensive to manage, administer and maintain
- Process-focused – limited impact or outcome targets or drivers
- Inward focused and invisible – considered to be limited to SCC rather than partner agencies
- Silo working – limited impact across SCC outside of Community Services team

Problems with LAPs for the community

- Engagement with councillors not consistent
- Voice and influence over services delivered and issues experienced by the community see footnote from State of VCF report
- Lack of visible accountability at a local level
- Lack of a single point of contact senior officer capacity in localities for Members, the community and officers to link up with stakeholders and local community assets

Future: an enhanced way of working focused on local areas?

“We will establish a way of working in our neighbourhoods, which empowers communities, frontline staff, and Councillors to work together to shape their local area, build its capacity, and achieve better outcomes for residents.”

Principles

1. Building on the strengths of the community
2. Achieving greater co-ordination and collaboration
3. Empowering and connecting people and agencies
4. Shaping improved local responses
5. Harnessing local insights to make better decisions

Enhanced way of working: neighbourhood networks

- This is an enhanced model of LAPs which builds on what has worked well.
- Potential '**Neighbourhood Network**' approach would be based on what works best for specific locality areas:
 - local advisory groups bringing together Councillors, key partners, key local stakeholders and residents
 - supporting local Members, providing sound advice and guidance ensuring that Elected Members are informed, engaged and enabled to carry out their community leadership role.
 - developing public opportunities to engage and influence
 - local stakeholder engagement and building stronger relationships across agencies and communities
 - developing local volunteering opportunities (eg.– 'Love Where You Live' style campaign) partnership with VCF, private sector and CSR, universities.
 - working alongside key locality level services (MAST, Housing+, Police) to support better outcomes
 - exploiting the potential of online channels to engage and communicate (potential link to new SCC website capabilities)
 - develop and make best use social and physical space in communities
 - building on other assets that exist within communities
 - community anchor organisations

Supporting and enhancing the work of Councillors

Influence and engagement

- Strategic and operational influencing role:
 - **Strategic** – corraling relevant local stakeholders to resolve local challenges / capitalise on opportunities
 - **Operational** – resolve smaller scale ‘place’ issues
- influencing and engaging public services in an area
- supporting community resilience and strengthening community wellbeing
- supporting communities to self-organise

Accountability

- Councillors able to reflect the experience of service users in localities
- Councillors empowered with the capacity and service performance data to hold services to account for local delivery on behalf of their residents

The right of proposition

- Empowered to work with residents and local stakeholders to develop ideas and make propositions to resolve local challenges

Locality working in Sheffield

Recognise that there a number of existing service-focused locality services and activities in Sheffield

MAST

MAST is a prevention focused service model to support better outcomes for children and families across Sheffield.

Adult Social Care localities

There are proposals to build on the success of People Keeping Well to reshape ASC delivery around localities and neighbourhoods to deliver more community level support and better manage demand.

Housing Plus

Housing+ is a more personalised service that aims to provide additional support to help tenants look after themselves and their home.

The Neighbourhood Network approach supports people, Members and service delivery partners

- It is not focused on service delivery
- It is not easily quantifiable with metrics
- It complements and works alongside Members, SCC services, partners and communities to support better outcomes for that area
- The Neighbourhood Network is focused on community development and supporting locally elected politicians
- It supports communities to have their voice heard and works to find solutions to locally important issues

Delivering neighbourhood working: how we take this forward

- Considering a number of options for how we deliver an enhanced approach.
- Proposal to Cabinet in the coming months
- Review the new model after 1 year.
- As part of a review, consider:
 - Impact re community infrastructure promoting cohesion and the ability for communities to self organise to build independence and capacity
 - Impact on increasing volunteering
 - Recognition of Local Councillors as Community Leaders re accountability, engagement and influence on local issues and service provision
 - Feedback from Services, Partners and Stakeholders re the framework
 - Positive impacts on corporate priorities, budgets, service delivery, community engagement

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Report to the Safer & Stronger Communities Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee Thursday 16th February 2017

Report of: Safer & Stronger Communities Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee Hate Crime Task Group

Subject: Hate Crime Task Group – Draft Report **Author of Report:** Hate Crime Task Group

Summary: The Safer & Stronger Communities Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee set up the Hate Crime Task Group in September 2016. Due to initial discussions around some of the challenges, combined with ongoing work being led by other groups and organisations in the city; the Task Group agreed the focus of their review would be the reporting of hate crime, specifically:

- To understand the different ways hate crime can be reported in Sheffield, identifying things that are working well and any areas where improvements could be made.*

The Task Group have now drafted their report, which outlines their findings and recommendations (please see **Appendix A**). The report is being shared with the scrutiny committee for approval.

Type of item: The report author should tick the appropriate box

Reviewing of existing policy	
Informing the development of new policy	
Statutory consultation	
Performance / budget monitoring report	
Cabinet request for scrutiny	
Full Council request for scrutiny	
Community Assembly request for scrutiny	
Call-in of Cabinet decision	
Briefing paper for the Scrutiny Committee	
Other - Task Group Report	x

The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:

- Approve the draft report (**Appendix A**) and provide any comment / feedback

Background Papers: n/a

Category of Report: open



**Safer & Stronger Communities Scrutiny & Policy
Development Committee**

Hate Crime Task Group Report - DRAFT

2nd February 2017
Draft v0.02



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OVERVIEW

Hate Crime can be any activity which is perceived to be motivated by hostility or prejudice, based on a person's race or ethnicity, religion or belief, disability, gender identity or sexual orientation. The term hate crime covers both criminal acts and "hate incidents", which are non-criminal acts, and can include things such as bullying and verbal abuse. Hate crime can have a very negative and long lasting impact. Victims of hate crime are more likely to suffer repeat victimisation and up to four times more likely to suffer more serious psychological impacts than are victims of non-targeted crime, they are also less likely to be satisfied with the response they receive from the Police¹.

Public awareness and understanding of hate crime has increased in recent years, as have levels of reporting. However, the two main sources of national data on hate crime show that it is being still significantly underreported. The Crime Survey for England & Wales shows an estimated national average of 222,000 hate crimes each year during 2012-13 and 2014-15, whilst actual Police Recorded Crime figures for the same period, show 44,471 hate crimes in 2013/14 and 52,528 in 2014/15². Data also shows specific groups, including disabled people and people from the LGBT community (lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and transgender) are much less likely to report. There is also a low level of recorded incidents relating to religion or belief.

In July 2016 the UK Government published its National Hate Crime Action Plan "Action Against Hate", which describes how it will tackle hate crime until 2020. The plan includes measures to increase reporting, including developing third party reporting centres, preventative work on public transport and stronger support for victims. Following on from this, work began to refresh the existing Hate Crime Strategy and Action Plan in Sheffield and leads from the Council and the Police plan to work with partners and communities to develop and deliver an action plan for the next 5 years.

As a result of both the importance of this topic and the ongoing work at both a local and national level, in September 2016 the Safer & Stronger Communities Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee agreed to set up a cross-party task group to look at hate crime.

Due to initial discussions around some of the challenges, combined with ongoing work being led by other groups and organisations in the city, the Task Group agreed the focus of their review would be the reporting of hate crime, specifically: **To understand the different ways hate crime can be reported in Sheffield, identifying things that are working well and any areas where improvements could be made.**

The cross party task group consisted of eight members and was chaired by the Scrutiny Committee Chair, Cllr Tony Damms:

Cllr Tony Damms	Cllr Keith Davis	Cllr Mark Jones	Cllr Magid Magid
Cllr Richard Shaw	Cllr Sue Auckland	Cllr Nasima Akhter	Cllr Michelle Cook

The task group review was undertaken between October 2016 and January 2017.

¹ Action Against Hate: The UK Government's plan for tackling hate crime, July 2016

² Action Against Hate: The UK Government's plan for tackling hate crime, July 2016



SUMMARY OF THE NATIONAL & LOCAL PICTURE

The Legal Framework

Over recent years a number of high profile cases, including the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry have impacted both on public awareness and understanding of hate crime and on our legal framework and practice. The UK's legislative framework continues to evolve, including changes aimed at better defining and strengthening the legislation. UK law now includes specific offences for racially and religiously aggravated activity and offences of stirring up hatred on the grounds of race, religion and sexual orientation. Public order legislation aims to ensure that individual rights to freedom of speech and freedom of assembly are balanced against the rights of others to go about their daily lives unhindered.

Since 2014 the use of "insulting words or behaviour" is no longer covered by public order law. This came as a result of a legal change introduced by the Government in 2013, through which the Crime and Courts Act amended sections of the Public Order Act 1986 to remove the word 'insulting'. The amendment was intended to enhance the protection of the right to freedom of expression under Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights and came into force on 1st February 2014. As a result words or behaviour that are merely 'insulting', will no longer constitute a criminal offence, but more serious, planned and malicious incidents of insulting behaviour could still constitute an offence³.

In some criminal cases "enhanced sentencing" can also be applied, through which a judge can increase an offender's sentence if they feel the criminal act was motivated by hostility or demonstrated hostility on the grounds of the five characteristics (race or ethnicity, religion or belief, disability, gender identity or sexual orientation). Following a recent decision by the Government (announced on 12th December 2016) the UK will also be adopting an official definition of anti-Semitism to help combat hate crime targeted against the Jewish community.

As a Public Authority, the Council also has legal obligations under the Equality Act 2010 to people with protected characteristics (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation). These are collectively known as the 'general duties to promote equality' and include:

- Eliminating discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- Advancing equality of opportunity
- Fostering good relations between persons with protected characteristic and those without

Every person has one or more of the characteristics, so the Act protects everyone against unfair treatment. The Councils Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy Statement was updated in 2014. The statement includes a set of commitments, including "Creating an environment for our staff and the people of Sheffield" that "promotes fairness, equality, diversity and inclusion" and "where intimidation, discrimination, harassment, bullying or victimisation is actively prevented and opposed"⁴.

³Crown Prosecution Service: Public Order Offences incorporating the Charging Standard, http://www.cps.gov.uk/legal/p_to_r/public_order_offences/ (20/12/2016)

⁴ Sheffield City Council, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy Statement 2014

The National Policy Context

The Government published its Counter-Extremism Strategy in October 2015; a key part of the strategy is to focus on all forms of extremism and the full range of harms that extremism causes, including the promotion of hatred and division among communities. The Government's Hate Crime Action Plan "Action Against Hate" also outlines how the Government plans to look across the full spectrum, from understanding the drivers of hate crime to dealing with its causes and providing better support for victims.

In July 2016 the Home Affairs Select Committee launched an inquiry to look at "Hate crime and its violent consequences", including hate crime motivated by extremism and actions carried out by fixated individuals ("lone wolves"). The inquiry is chaired by Rt Hon Keith Vaz MP. The inquiry has received written submissions and met with a number of key witnesses, it is still open and is in the process of receiving further evidence and it is expected to report later in the year.

In July 2015, at the request of the then Prime Minister and Home Secretary, Dame Louise Casey was asked to undertake a review into integration and opportunity in our most isolated and deprived communities. The resulting report entitled "A review into opportunity and integration" was published in December 2016. The report cites the issue of the continued underreporting of hate crime. It aims to stimulate national debate and discussion, along with promoting greater consideration of the steps that everyone can take to improve integration and opportunity. It also sets out some specific recommendations which it hopes the Government will accept and take forward, including a new communities programme "to complement and underpin existing work to tackle extremism, hate crime and violence against women".⁵

The College of Policing, the professional body for policing, has also published a national strategy and operational guidance to ensure hate crime is dealt with effectively and the Crown Prosecution Service will be working on updated guidance.

Reporting

The official Police recorded data on hate crime shows an increase over the past 12 months. In 2015-16, there were 62,518 hate crimes (based on race, sexual orientation, religion, disability and transgender) this is an increase of 19% on the previous year⁶. The weeks following the UK's referendum membership of the European Union, held on 23rd June 2016 also saw national reports of a noticeable increase in hate crime, including via the online reporting website True Vision; Sheffield also saw an increase in incidents in this period. There seems to be some consensus that this increase in incidents is likely to be linked to a small minority of people feeling "emboldened" by the referendum result and at both a national and local level the overwhelming response remains condemnation and a commitment to unify to tackle such hatred.

As already outlined, data from the Independent Crime Survey for England & Wales shows there is still a significant challenge in terms of underreporting, with particular groups, including disabled people being highlighted as less likely to report. At a national level, the consultation and engagement undertaken to inform the national action plan also highlighted communities which faced barriers to reporting; including Jewish People from

⁵ The Casey Review, A review into opportunity and integration: Executive Summary, Dame Louise Casey DBE CB, (December 2016)

⁶ The Casey Review, A review into opportunity and integration: Executive Summary, Dame Louise Casey DBE CB, (December 2016)

the Charedi community, the Gypsy, Traveller and Roma communities, and asylum seekers and refugees⁷. The plan also states that young people are both the main victims and perpetrators of hate crime.

Whilst both local and national data do show an increase in hate crime reporting, given the context of significant underreporting and an ongoing push to increase awareness and understanding, there is a consensus that this should not be seen as a purely negative development and that increases in reporting should be both expected and welcomed.

Data

Over recent years there have been a number of changes to how hate crime data is recorded. In 2014 a number of sub-categories for the recording of faith and disability crimes and incidents were introduced to get a better understanding of the impact of national and international events on local communities and improve and target services for victims. The subcategories for faith are anti-Christian, anti-Hindu, anti-Islam, anti-Semitism and anti-Sikh and some Police forces also introduced the recording four subcategories for disability, learning, physical, sensory and mental. Since April 2016 Government has asked the Police to ensure that the recording of religious based hate crime includes the faith of the victim.

The table below outlines some of the differences in data at a national level in terms of Police Recorded Crime and the independent Crime Survey for England & Wales (CSEW).

Category	Police Recorded Crime	Independent Crime Survey for England & Wales
Categories as a % of all hate crime		
Race	82%	47%
Religion	6%	17%
Disability	5%	33%
Total number of incidents		
Sexual Orientation	4,584	29,000 (estimated figure)
Transgender identity	557	Unavailable (as there are too few respondents to have an accurate estimate)

Data Source: Action Against Hate: The UK Government's plan for tackling hate crime, July 2016⁸

⁷ Action Against Hate: The UK Government's plan for tackling hate crime, July 2016

⁸ Action Against Hate: The UK Government's plan for tackling hate crime, July 2016

Tell MAMA (Measuring Anti-Muslim Attacks) supports victims of anti-Muslim hate and is a public service which also measures and monitors anti-Muslim hate incidents. Statistics from Tell MAMA indicate that 2,317 incidents of anti-Muslim hatred were reported to and verified by them (including reports shared by the Police) between 1st January and 31st December 2015, compared with 599 in 2014. A further 1,000 incidents were reported during the first four months of 2016. Of the 801 incidents of anti-Muslim hatred that were documented by Tell MAMA during 2015, 364 were online (73%)⁹.

In terms of measuring overall online hate crime at present it is not possible to provide data on this. In its recent action plan the Government has confirmed that steps have been taken to improve the capturing of this information and that along with the introduction of a clear definition of online hate crime the Home Office is continuing to work with the Police to improve the “consistency and quality of the data and to determine when it will be ready for publication”¹⁰.

Public Transport

In 2015 British Transport Police (BTP) recorded 1,993 racially motivated hate crimes across railways in England, Wales and Scotland and the London Underground, an increase of 37% over the previous five years¹¹. The Governments national plan outlines actions aimed at addressing hate crime on public transport, both in terms of incidents affecting passengers and staff, this will include community led advertising campaigns on public transport to raise awareness and understanding.

Third Party Reporting

One of the recommendations from the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry focussed on providing routes for independent and accessible reporting for racist incidents, as outlined below:

That all possible steps should be taken by police services at local level in consultation with local government and other agencies and local communities to encourage the reporting of racist incidents and crimes. This should include:

- the ability to report at locations other than police stations;
- the ability to report 24 hours a day

(Source: Recommendation 16 of the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry)¹²

The Government’s Action Plan confirms that the Police will continue to improve True Vision, the national dedicated hate crime website which enables reporting directly to an individual’s local Police force. It also says that more support will be provided for young people who are exposed to hate crime material online. The Plan also confirms a number of actions to improve third party reporting, to give victims the opportunity to report hate crime without approaching the Police, which the plans states can both help people both feel more comfortable coming forward, whilst providing more channels for reporting.

⁹ Action Against Hate: The UK Government’s plan for tackling hate crime, July 2016

¹⁰ Action Against Hate: The UK Government’s plan for tackling hate crime, July 2016

¹¹ The Guardian, Race hate crimes reported on UK railways rise 37% in five years, 27 January 2016, www.theguardian.com/race-hate-crimes-uk-railways-rise-37-per-cent

¹² The Stephen Lawrence Inquiry, Report of an Inquiry by Sir William Macpherson of Cluny, February 1999

The Local Picture

As already outlined, work is currently underway in Sheffield to refresh the city's Hate Crime Strategy and Action Plan and since October 2016 a combined Police and Council Anti-Social Behaviour unit has been established in the city. The team will handle cases such as responding to repeat vulnerable victims of hate crime / incidents as well as considering how to spend the Sheffield Safer & Sustainable Communities Partnership's community safety funding to deliver the greatest impact.

Sheffield is also in the process of working with the voluntary and community sector to co-produce a Cohesion & Integration Strategy and Action Plan for the City as well as working closely with partner organisations and local communities, including the Equality Hub Network around PREVENT, including delivering the statutory requirements for public sector bodies. The Police and Crime Commissioner also identified hate crime as a key focus in his Police and Crime Plan for South Yorkshire, as part of the priority to provide an 'effective response to threats to the most vulnerable people'.

Sheffield has established a Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel which is run by Stop Hate UK. Stop Hate UK are a voluntary sector organisation which aims to raise the profile and increase the reporting of hate crime. Stop Hate UK have been funded up until April 2017 to run a Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel, which meets on a monthly basis in a central location. The panel provides a scrutiny process for members of the public to hear about how specific, anonymised cases have been dealt with by South Yorkshire Police. The meetings are attended by a range of members of the public who review and pass comment on how the police have responded to investigated reports of hate crime, with a view to improving the response.

Young People in Sheffield have also been actively involved in the Fearless Project (the Young People's version of Crimestoppers). Fearless is a dedicated project for young people, which has been designed and developed by young people to help raise awareness and improve community safety. The Fearless website and educational resources provide information and advice about crimes that might affect young people; as well as a route for anonymous reporting. Fearless has been piloted in a number of areas of the country, including Sheffield, and it is now going to be rolled out nationwide. Young Advisors from Sheffield Futures have been actively involved in the Fearless project and a number of them met with members of the Scrutiny Task Group to talk to them as part of their review into hate crime.

From both a national and local perspective there seems to be some consensus in terms of some of the challenges and recommendations around hate crime, which includes:

- Underreporting
- Increasing awareness and understanding
- The need for targeted communications with groups with the highest rates of underreporting, including specific work with disabled people
- An increase in online / cyber incidents
- A need to engage effectively with young people
- Routes for independent reporting
- The need for focused work on public transport
- High quality victim support



APPROACH

The Task Group used a range of approaches to gather data for their review, including desk top research, evidence gathering sessions and attendance at events and workshops. Evidence gathering sessions were organised with a number of key witnesses and areas for discussion were shared in advance to enable a full and open discussion.

Sheffield has an **Equality Hub Network**, which brings communities and decision makers together to work for positive change. The Network is made up of seven "Equality Hubs", based on protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010. The seven hubs are Age, Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic and Refugee, Carers, Disability, Women, LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans) and Religion / Belief (including no religious belief). At a similar time to Scrutiny the Equality Hub Network also set up a working group to look at hate crime, focussing on raising awareness and communication, and so both groups were keen to work together closely. In light of this members of the Scrutiny Task Group attended an event organised by the Equality Hub Network in October 2016 and the two groups worked together to arrange a joint workshop in November 2016 to discuss the areas they were looking at, awareness raising and reporting.

Due to the Scrutiny Task Groups focus on reporting, they were keen to understand routes for independent reporting, including hearing directly from **third party reporting centres**. This was particularly around awareness of hate crime and how the centres were working; both in terms of things they felt were working well, if they would benefit from any further support and any areas for improvement. An online survey was sent to all third party reporting centres in the city; this also offered centres the chance to meet with members of the task group for a further discussion.

Members of the Task Group also met with a small group of **young advisors from Sheffield Futures** who have been very actively involved in the **Fearless Project** (the Young People's version of Crimestoppers) to discuss hate crime and reporting for young people. This session was organised by the Young People Involvement Workers, who also contributed suggestions in terms of learning from and potential links with the Fearless Project.

The Task Group met with **Sheffield Voices**, a self-advocacy group for people with a learning disability who are supported by local Third Sector organisation Disability Sheffield (Centre for Independent Living). The Workshop was organised by the Development Worker who supports the group. Sheffield Voices have also produced a powerful short film to raise awareness of hate crime targeted at disabled people, which was shown at a meeting of the Safer & Stronger Communities Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee. Both the workshop and the video enabled members of the Task Group to better understand the experiences of people with a learning disability in terms of hate crime and members of Sheffield Voices made a number of suggestions in terms of things they felt could be improved, particularly in terms of communication, awareness and reporting.

The diagram on the following page gives a summary of the evidence gathering activity undertaken:

APPROACH

Summary of evidence gathering activities - In addition to desk top research, the following activities were undertaken by the Task Group:

Individual meetings were held with:

- Maxine Stavrianakos, Head of Neighbourhood Intervention & Tenant Support, Sheffield City Council
- Julia Cayless, Partnership and Performance Manager, Sheffield City Council
- Ian Proffitt, Acting Chief Inspector, South Yorkshire Police
- Andrew Bolland, Partnerships and Contracts Manager, Stop Hate UK
- Steve Cooper, City Centre Resources Manager, Sheffield City Council

Third Party Reporting Centres

An online survey was sent to 13 individuals, 7 representing third sector organisations and 6 from the public sector (including 3 from Sheffield Council). A total of 9 responses were received, 6 from the public sector and 3 from the third sector. The survey also invited the centres to meet with 2/3 members of the task group to further discuss hate crime and reporting, four meetings were subsequently arranged, as outlined below:

- Sheffield Council Customer Services**, Team Leader
- Heeley City Farm**, Safe Places coordinator
- Sheffield Council Human Resources**, Human Resources Service Manager
- Sheffield University** - Student Transitions & Support Manager and Head of Advice & Representation at Sheffield Students' Union

Equality Hub Network Event & Workshop

- Equality Hub Network Hate Crime Event** - A joint event organised by the Disability Hub and the Religion / Belief Hub – three Task Group members attended this event.
- Equality Hub Network Joint Workshop** – A joint workshop between members of the Scrutiny Hate crime task group and the Equality Hub Network (Cross hub) Hate Crime Working Group to discuss awareness raising and reporting.

Meetings with other groups

- Sheffield Voices** - a self-advocacy group for people with a learning disability, supported by Disability Sheffield). This group have also produced a disability hate crime awareness video.
- Young Advisors (Sheffield Futures)** – meeting a small group of young advisors who have been involved in the Fearless campaign (online anonymous crime reporting for young people)

The Task Group reviewed the evidence gathered and identified a set of findings and recommendations as outlined in the next section



FINDINGS – WHAT’S WORKING WELL?

The Task Group heard about a number of positives areas, both in terms of partnership working and pieces of work, some of which have been summarised below:

Equality Hub Network

Both the Police and Council were positive about working with the Equality Hub Network and the links this gives them to communities. This includes a series of high quality events arranged by the Network and more recently the establishment of the Cross Hub Working Group to look at hate crime - specifically awareness raising and communication

Joint Working

The Police are planning to work with the Equality Hub Networks Hate Crime Working group on a refreshed media campaign and communications materials.

Partnership Working

The Task Group heard of some positive relationships that were clearly being built, including between Disability Sheffield and the Police.

There was also a clear desire from a number of the Third Party Reporting Centres to look at what they can do to help raise awareness and encourage reporting.

Central Reporting Point

The Task Group tested the idea of the Merseyside approach and the "concept" of having a 24/7 reporting line as a route for independent (non-Police) reporting with a number of people involved in the review, the response to which was positive.

Fearless Campaign

Fearless provides information, educational resources and anonymous reporting for young people. The approach has been piloted in areas, including Sheffield and will now be rolled out nationally. Those involved were very positive about Fearless, and opportunities to link with work around hate crime.

Training & Skills

The Task Group heard of some positive work being led by organisations in the city, including the disability hate crime awareness short film produced by Sheffield Voices. Sheffield Voices are also involved in delivering disability awareness training to organisations and would like to do more in Sheffield.



FINDINGS – POSSIBLE AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

The Task Group have focussed their findings and recommendations around the following themes:

1. Raising Awareness and Building Understanding
2. Reporting
3. Partnership Working
4. Improving our Understanding

1. Raising Awareness and Building Understanding

A number of the people the Task Group met with spoke about trust and confidence in organisations and processes as being a foundation to increasing the reporting of hate crime. Accessible and clear public information, giving an explanation of what a hate crime is and what a hate incident is was also felt to be a priority, to help raise awareness and understanding both within communities, the wider public and organisations responding to hate crime. People felt these definitions needed to be easy to understand and written in plain English and that information (both off and online) needed to be up to date and consistent. The findings of the online research undertaken by the Task Group mirrored some of these concerns, in that online information was not always accurate or consistent across agencies, this included information on the third party reporting centres, a number of which were no longer actively operating as a centre. Clear information about the support available for people, both when they are reporting and following the making of a report was also seen as essential, as was the need for effective signposting to organisations who can provide high quality support and advice.

Both the Police and Council acknowledged the need for consistent engagement to build relationships and trust with communities; however both cited reduced capacity as having a negative impact in this area. For the Police reduced capacity has also meant more generic and less specialised officers.

In terms of broader awareness raising with the public, a number of people the Task Group spoke with talked about information being highly visible and “in the right place”. This was not just about posters in council buildings, people were keen to see publicity in “places where everyone goes”, examples given included supermarkets and restaurants. In addition and in light of a number of concerns about the number of incidents taking place on public transport, especially buses and involving both members of the public and sometimes staff, it was felt consideration should also be given to a targeted awareness raising campaign on the bus network, that could potentially be extended to other forms of public transport. This would need to link with / complement any nationally organised campaign as outlined in the Governments action plan.

The issue of consistent branding was also raised and discussed. It was acknowledged that there was no national branding for hate crime, the only national resource being the True Vision Website. Although the group are aware that Stop Hate UK has developed branding, which has been in place

for over 10 years and which includes materials targeting particular groups and communities, this branding is available to organisations purchasing specific services from Stop Hate UK (the hate Crime Scrutiny Panel service which Sheffield is currently purchasing does not qualify). A number of people raised the fact that consistent branding would help with awareness raising, including easier identification of third party reporting centres.

There were a number of discussions around under-reporting of hate crime, particularly in terms of the LGBT community, disabled people and incidents relating to religion or belief and these findings mirror both the local and national statistics on hate crime. The group were also made aware of concerns around underreporting by students. The group felt that some targeted activities with these communities would therefore be beneficial.

In terms of people with a learning disability, some particular concerns were raised regarding a degree of acceptance and normalisation for both individuals and their families or carers in terms of hate incidents, such as bullying and verbal abuse and sometimes actual hate crime. Some people felt this was also at times linked to fear of reprisals, which in some cases could lead to an individual being discouraged from reporting. It was felt that a campaign of targeted awareness raising, to both challenge perceptions and encourage reporting would be beneficial. The Short film produced by Sheffield Voices, was felt to be a powerful tool that could be used as part of this approach.

2. Reporting

The need for clear, consistent information about hate crime, easy ways to report and information about what will happen if you make a report have already been highlighted. In addition, in terms of discussions around reporting the main areas that arose were the 101 telephone line, online or cyber bullying and third party reporting centres. Some people also raised the idea of having dedicated / specialist hate crime Police officers to work with communities.

In terms of the 101 telephone line, the Task Group heard from a number of people who raised concerns about very long waiting times, sometimes in excess of 30 minutes, which had led some people to give up on waiting and so potentially on reporting. A smaller number of people also raised the issue of a lack of staff understanding in terms of both hate crime and initiatives for people needing support, such as the Safe Places scheme.

The prevalence of online or cyber-crime was expressly raised by young people, in particular via social media platforms, the increasing use of memes (which include images of the individual) as a form of bullying or hate crime was also discussed. The Young People wanted to have easy reporting options, including the ability to report anonymously, which could be done via the Fearless website; the young people also advised that the Fearless project is in the process of developing a reporting App. The discussion with the young people also raised the question about online reporting options enabling people to easily send attachments or screen shots as evidence of an incident.

Third Party Reporting Centres

The "go live" date for Hate Crime reporting via third party reporting centres in Sheffield was February 2013. This included Council First Point centres, Housing Offices, a number of third sector organisations and subsequently South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service.

Findings from both the online survey and subsequent discussions with the Third Party Reporting Centres found consistent agreement about the need for an independent reporting option, which means people don't have to go directly to the Police. However, there were a number of challenges in terms of third party reporting centres, some of which mirror the experience at a national level, including low levels of reporting and implications of staff turnover for smaller organisations. A small number of centres also responded to say they were no longer operating as a centre and so needed to come off the list.

All of the centres who responded to the survey fed back that they had received very low levels of hate crime reports coming through them. The main reasons for this were felt to be a lack of awareness of the centres and their role. A number of people said they felt the centres needed much further promotion, combined with the need for broader awareness raising around hate crime, as outlined previously in this report. The question of how you would find out about or identify a centre if you don't have internet access was also raised, which links to the earlier points around consistent branding.

Some other concerns were also raised in terms of staff turnover and awareness (as in some organisations it may only be 1-2 members of staff who have awareness of the process). The range of things that would need to be in place to be a "good centre" were also discussed, including having a confidential space to meet with people, being able to see people quickly and having well trained staff who have the time to spend with someone (which for some individuals may mean quite a long time).

There were also discussions about the current list of third party reporting centres in Sheffield and whether they effectively cover all five characterises and if they do not does the list need to be broadened?

Discussions with staff involved in some of Sheffield Councils third party reporting centres found they were confident about staff awareness and understanding of hate crime and how they could support someone who wished to make a report. The data available from Human Resources in terms of reporting by Council staff for the past 2 years show that reporting numbers have remained consistently low.

Third party reporting centres don't receive any specific funding; they were given initial training for staff about hate crime and reporting, which was provided by the Council and Police, along with some ad hoc support. There were some concerns raised by the Council and Police about capacity in terms of both time and money to provide effective, ongoing support for the centres in terms of training, advice and publicity, especially if this network were to further grow. The Police also understandably raised the point that support being provided by the Police could call into question the relative independence of the centres.

There was also some “testing” of the some of the elements of the approach adopted in Merseyside with those involved in the review, including the use of a 24/7 independent telephone line, which enables third party centres to act more as a referral point as opposed to a reporting centre. The response to this idea was generally very positive. However, a number of people the task group spoke with reiterated the point that whatever the model was for independent (non-Police) reporting to work well it would need to be well promoted. The other point raised by a number of people was that things can take a long time to “bed in” and so they wouldn’t want to see short term pilots for new approaches.

3. Partnership Working

There was some really positive feedback about partnership working in the city, especially with regards to the ongoing work being undertaken with the Equality Hub Networks Working Group on Hate Crime. Positive relationships have also clearly been built with other groups and organisations, but inevitably some were still to be built or could be further improved.

A number of people the Task Group met with spoke positively about a citywide multi-agency Hate Crime Group, facilitated by the Council which they would welcome being re-established, it was also felt that a review and potential broadening of membership should also be considered. Linked to this, in light of concerns that were raised about the number of hate incidents taking place on public transport (especially buses) it was felt that South Yorkshire Passenger Transport should be invited to be part of this group along with any other relevant partnership working arrangements.

There were also some discussions regarding partnership approaches in terms of preventative work. For the Police hate incidents (as opposed to hate crimes) by their nature do not result in prosecutions and so are ultimately about safeguarding, sign posting and problem solving; again reduced capacity to undertake some of this more preventative work was also raised with the Task Group. However, the combined Police and Council Anti-Social Behaviour Unit, which has recently been established, was cited as a positive approach to future partnership working. The group also heard about Housing Offices acting as third party reporting centres and the role of housing officers through the housing plus model.

The Young Advisors from Sheffield Futures spoke to the Task Group about the work they have undertaken around the Fearless project. The Young Advisors have been actively involved in the project, including website design and content, educational materials and work in schools. Fearless aims to educate and empower young people to make their community a safer place. It provides young person friendly information and advice about crime, along with training resources which have been designed by young people. Fearless also enables anonymous reporting to the Police.

Sheffield has been one of the pilot sites for this project which is now going to be rolled out nationally. The Young Advisors were very positive about the work that has been undertaken and felt that linking in with this, especially through work through schools would be the best way of raising awareness of hate crime with young people.

The Task Group had a number of discussions around training, specifically in terms of disability awareness and hate crime awareness. Through their discussion with Sheffield Voices, the group were made aware that they have been involved in delivering disability awareness training to public sector organisations in the region. In light of these discussions the Task Group have made some specific recommendations about training, specifically hate crime awareness training for the Councils City Centre Ambassadors'. The Task Group has also asked that consideration be given to co-producing training and training materials.

4. Improving our Understating

The Task Group had some discussions with people around available data; this highlighted the fact that there is currently no easily collectable data on the reports or referrals taken by the third party reporting centres. This information is not collected on the Police system, so the only way this is available is through collation by the centres themselves, however given the very low levels of reporting coming through the centres to date this has not posed a significant challenge.

There has clearly been some improvement in terms of data collection by the Police, including the introduction of sub-categories for the recording of faith incidents which were introduced between 2014/16. The subcategories for faith are anti-Christian, anti-Hindu, anti-Islam, anti-Semitism and anti-Sikh and some forces are using four subcategories for disability, learning, physical, sensory and mental, however these sub categories for disability are not currently being used by South Yorkshire Police.

The Task Group also discussed the issue of hate crime based on gender. The Task Group are aware that the inclusion of misogyny as a category of hate crime is currently being piloted by Nottinghamshire Police, led by their Chief Constable Sue Fish and in partnership with Nottingham Women's Centre. Nottinghamshire Police introduced this approach in July 2016 (though data has been compiled from April 2016). This change saw Nottingham become the first force in the country to record the harassment of women as a hate crime.

The Force feel the result has been positive, enabling the reporting of 30 hate crimes (11 hate crimes and 19 hate incidents) over a 5 month period and media reports state that 15 other Police forces are now considering adopting this approach¹³. The 11 misogynistic hate crime offences including harassment, kidnapping, possession of weapons and causing public fear, alarm or distress. The Task Group are also aware that national research has shown significant levels of online abuse based on gender¹⁴. The Task Group would therefore like to make a recommendation around the inclusion of gender as a category of hate crime. This also supports a motion at Full Council in March 2015 that raised the suggestion that misogyny be included as a category of hate crime.

¹³ BBC, Misogyny hate crime statistics revealed (accessed December 2016), <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-nottinghamshire-37405732>

¹⁴ Action Against Hate: The UK Government's plan for tackling hate crime, July 2016



RECOMMENDATIONS

The Task Group would like to make recommendations across the four identified themes:

1. Raising Awareness and Building Understanding
2. Reporting
3. Partnership Working
4. Improving our Understanding

1. In Order To Raise Awareness And Build Understanding

- 1.1 *In order to raise awareness and build understanding promoting community cohesion and raising awareness around hate crime becomes a key communications campaign for the Council for 2017.* This should include the Council Communications Team working alongside the Police Communications Team and the Equality Hub Networks Hate Crime Working Group to co-produce clear and accessible materials, taking into consideration consistent information and branding and to include:
 - A clear definition of a hate crime and a hate incident
 - Information on how to report and what happens when you make a report, including the support available at all stages
- 1.2 *In order to raise awareness a citywide anti-hate crime campaign is undertaken* including information in widely used public places such as supermarkets, restaurants and public transport, this should include ongoing effective promotion of routes for independent reporting, including the Fearless website, which enables anonymous reporting for young people. We may be able to learn lessons from the “Hate Hurts” campaign undertaken in West Yorkshire.
- 1.3 In order to challenge negative perceptions and address underreporting within specific target groups, **targeted campaigns are undertaken, particularly for groups that are known to underreport** and to include specific work to engage with families and carers of disabled people, including working with the Equality Hub Network on the best ways to engage with people and deliver meaningful messages
- 1.4 In order to ensure an effective approach to communications and promotion (as outlined above) **the Council works with partners to secure funding of £10,000 to enable sufficient communications resource** (staff time / materials / online resources) to deliver the recommendations.

2. Reporting

- 2.1 In order to provide an effective and co-ordinated approach for people who do not wish to contact the Police directly, **Sheffield Council, as part of the Sheffield Community Safety Partnership fund the piloting of an independent 24/7 hate crime reporting line** (to ideally include phone, web chat, online and email), this approach should be piloted for 3 years (recognising funding may be subject to annual agreement) and should provide regular performance reports to the Sheffield Safer & Sustainable Communities Partnership and the Safer & Stronger Communities Scrutiny Committee. The likely cost for this service is around £10,000 per year for Sheffield. To reinforce its independence the service should have its own branding.
- 2.2 In order to provide a more effective and easy route to independent reporting, **Sheffield Council and the Police (in partnership with existing Third Party Reporting Centres) and in light of the introduction of a proposed independent 24/7 hate crime reporting line (recommendation 2.1) consider adopting the approach of having third party referral centres that signpost people to the 24/7 hate crime reporting line (as opposed to reporting centres)**, we could learn lessons from Merseyside who adopted this approach a number of years ago
- 2.3 In order to raise awareness of independent reporting (see recommendation 2.1) **the 24/7 hate crime reporting line service is actively promoted with frontline staff in the Council and the Police (and other relevant organisations e.g. SYPTE) and appropriate training and accessible contact information is provided (e.g. business cards)**

3. Partnership Working

- 3.1 In order to ensure effective partnership working in the city, **consideration be given to broadening membership of the Citywide Multi-Agency Hate Crime Group, to include South Yorkshire Passenger Transport Executive (SYPTE) to help engage them in discussions around tackling incidents on public transport, particularly on bus services**
- 3.2 In order to increase staff awareness and understanding, **the City Centre Ambassadors are given training on hate crime, including awareness raising (hate incidents / crimes) and reporting, including the independent 24/7 hate crime reporting line (if introduced)**
- 3.3 In order to support continued partnerships and close working with communities **the Council and the Police continue to work closely with the Equality Hub Network, including co-production of awareness raising materials and also exploring other possibilities for co-production, such as training around disability and hate crime awareness**

3.4 In order to support effective partnership working and awareness raising with young people, **the Council and Police work with the young people and youth workers leading on the Fearless campaign, including exploring options for joint working around awareness raising, especially in local schools**

4. Improving Our Understanding

4.1 In order to increase our understanding of city centre incidents, **the City Centre Ambassadors pilot the recording of any hate incidents / crimes that they are made aware of over a 6 month period and report this data to the Safer & Sustainable Communities Partnership**

4.2 In order to improve data capture and recording across all protected characteristics, and in line with the Council Motion agreed in March 2015 **the committee requests that the Cabinet Member write to the PCC regarding the inclusion of gender (misogyny and misandry) as a category of hate crime**

4.3 In order to improve data capture and improve our understanding of hate crime **the committee requests that the Cabinet Member write to the PCC to ask that consideration be given to further changes to the South Yorkshire Police recording systems to enable the capture of more detailed equalities monitoring data including the use of the four identified sub categories for disability (learning, physical, sensory and mental).**

This report will be shared with both Sheffield City Council’s Cabinet and with the Safer & Sustainable Communities Partnership
The Safer & Stronger Communities Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee would like to request that Cabinet provide an initial response to their recommendations by July 2017 with a more detailed progress report to be provided by the end of 2017.

Thank You
The task Group would like to thank everyone who was involved in this piece of work, for both their times and contributions.



BIBLIOGRAPHY

Reports & Documents

- Action Against Hate, The UK Government's Plan for Tackling Hate Crime, Home Office, July 2016
- The Casey Review: A Review into Opportunity and Integration, December 2016
- Sheffield City Council, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy Statement 2014
- Sheffield City Council's Draft Cohesion and Integration Strategy and Action Plan
- The Stephen Lawrence Inquiry, Report of an Inquiry by Sir William Macpherson of Cluny, February 1999

Websites / Web links

- Fearless <https://www.fearless.org/>
- True Vision http://report-it.org.uk/report_a_hate_crime
- South Yorkshire Police <http://www.southyorks.police.uk/>
- West Yorkshire Police, hate crime <https://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/hatecrime>
- Crimestoppers, Working with Young People <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/get-involved/working-with-young-people/>
- Merseyside Police, Hate Crime <https://www.merseyside.police.uk/hate-crime/how-to-report-a-hate-crime/>
- Stop Hate UK <https://www.stophateuk.org/>
- Sheffield City Council, hate crime and incidents <https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/equality-and-diversity/staying-safe/hate->
- Disability Hate Crime Short Film, Sheffield Voices <https://vimeo.com/149041874>
- Crown Prosecution Service: http://www.cps.gov.uk/legal/p_to_r/public_order_offences/
- BBC, Misogyny hate crime statistics revealed (Sept 2016) <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-nottinghamshire-37405732>
- Home Affairs Select Committee inquiry: Hate crime and its violent consequences <https://www.parliament.uk/new-inquiry-hate-crime/>
- The Guardian, Race hate crimes reported on UK railways rise 37% in five years (Jan 2016) <https://theguardian.com/hate-crimes-uk-railways>



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**Report to Safer & Stronger Communities
Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee
Thursday 16th February 2017**

Report of: Policy & Improvement Officer

Subject: Work Programme 2016/17

Author of Report: Diane Owens, Policy and Improvement Officer
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The latest draft of the work programme is attached at Appendix A.

The work programme aims to focus on a small number of issues in depth. It remains a live document throughout the year and is brought to each committee meeting.

The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:

- Note the contents of the work programme and provide any comment / feedback

**Safer & Stronger Communities Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee
Work Programme 2016-17**

Chair: Cllr Tony Damms

Vice Chair: Cllr Richard Shaw

[Meeting Papers on SCC Website](#)

Meeting day/ time: Thursday 4-7pm

Please note: the work programme is a live document and so is subject to change.

Topic	Reasons for selecting topic	Lead Officer/s	Agenda Item/ Briefing paper
Thursday 6th April 4-7pm			
Housing + Model and Implementation	This report will provide an update on the Housing + model and plans for implementation, to enable scrutiny to provide comment / suggestions.	Janet Sharpe, Director of Housing and Neighbourhoods Service Maxine Stavrianakos, Head of Neighbourhood Intervention & Tenant Support	Agenda Item
Challenge for Change (C4C): Vacant Property Management (update on progress)	The customer scrutiny panel known as Challenge for Change (C4C) was set up in 2011 to perform an independent review of services delivered by the Council Housing Service. This report covers their project on Vacant property management. The purpose of the project was to examine the Vacants service to look at ways of improving the time it takes to turnaround vacant properties for the Council to save it money and improve the service from a customer's point of view. The report will provide an update on progress in implementing the report's recommendations.	Jill Hurst, Head of Service for Investment and Repairs Jason Siddall, Repairs and Maintenance Manager Rosie Sheldon, Rehousing Manager Tenants who were involved in the piece of work - tbc	Agenda Item

Briefing Paper Equality Hub Network - update on work around hate crime	A brief update on the work of the Equality Hub Network cross hub working group looking at hate crime.	Haseena Siddique Business Project Officer, Faith Star	Briefing Paper
Briefing Paper Police & Crime Panel Update	To receive an update on the work of the Police & Crime Panel.	Julia Cayless, Safer Communities Team Leader to identify lead	Briefing Paper
Briefing Paper Hate Crime	To receive a brief update on hate crime statistics.	Julia Cayless, Safer Communities Team Leader to identify lead	Briefing Paper
TASK GROUP			
Hate Crime Task Group	The Committee set up a task group to look at hate crime. this agreed a specific focus on reporting. The Group are presenting their draft report to the full committee in February.	Hate Crime Task Group	Task Group
Other possible topics			
Gateway Protection Programme	To receive an update on work on the Gateway Protection Programme in Sheffield.	Nusrat Rehman, Manager, Targeted Interventions	tbd
Homelessness & rough sleeping (briefing paper)	In January 2016 Full Council requested that a report on the issue of support for rough sleepers in the city be submitted to the relevant Scrutiny Committee for consideration. This Committee subsequently received this report in April 2016, the session was attended by the Cabinet Member and lead officers. The Committee agreed to add this topic to its 2016-17 Work Programme as a possible briefing paper.	Suzanne Allen, Head of Citywide Neighbourhood Services Zoe Young, Housing Options and Advice Service Manager	Briefing Paper

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Selecting Scrutiny topics

This tool is designed to assist the Scrutiny Committees focus on the topics most appropriate for their scrutiny.

- **P**ublic Interest
The concerns of local people should influence the issues chosen for scrutiny;
- **A**bility to Change / Impact
Priority should be given to issues that the Committee can realistically have an impact on, and that will influence decision makers;
- **P**erformance
Priority should be given to the areas in which the Council, and other organisations (public or private) are not performing well;
- **E**xtent
Priority should be given to issues that are relevant to all or large parts of the city (geographical or communities of interest);
- **R**eplication / other approaches
Work programmes must take account of what else is happening (or has happened) in the areas being considered to avoid duplication or wasted effort. Alternatively, could another body, agency, or approach (e.g. briefing paper) more appropriately deal with the topic

Other influencing factors

- **Cross-party** - There is the potential to reach cross-party agreement on a report and recommendations.
- **Resources**. Members with the Policy & Improvement Officer can complete the work needed in a reasonable time to achieve the required outcome



Report to Safer and Stronger Scrutiny & Policy Development Committee

Subject: Hate Crime and Hate Incidents 1st Feb 2015 – 30th Jan 2017

Author of Report: Adele Walker, Partnership Analyst,
Julia Cayless, Partnership and Performance Manager,

Anti-social Behaviour and Community Safety Team

Summary:

1. Hate crime is gaining increasing precedence in national and local crime prevention priorities.
2. Increasing awareness and responses to hate crime has resulted in an increase in reporting both nationally and locally.
3. Over the last two years, there has been an upward trend in the volume of hate crime and hate incidents reported to South Yorkshire Police, with much of the last year seeing above average volumes.
4. Recorded volumes of hate crimes and incidents have increased by 46% from 2015/6 – 2016/7.

Type of item: The report author should tick the appropriate box

Reviewing of existing policy	
Informing the development of new policy	
Statutory consultation	
Performance / budget monitoring report	
Cabinet request for scrutiny	
Full Council request for scrutiny	
Community Assembly request for scrutiny	
Call-in of Cabinet decision	
Briefing paper for the Scrutiny Committee	x
Other	

The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:
The Committee is asked to consider the findings.

Background Papers:
none

Category of Report: OPEN

Report of the Director of Housing and Neighbourhood Services

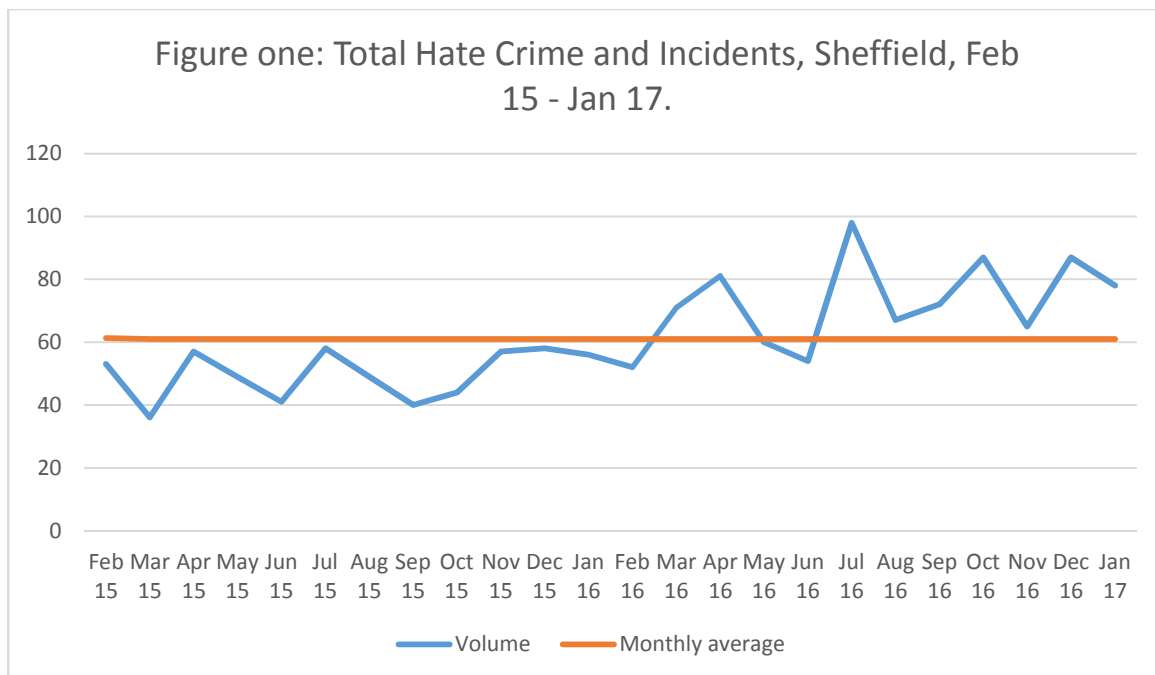
Hate Crime and Hate Incidents

1. Introduction/Context

- 1.1 This report has been requested by the Committee to provide an update on hate crime and hate incidents in Sheffield.
- 1.2 Hate Crime is taken to mean any crime where the perpetrator's prejudice against an identifiable group of people is a contributory factor in determining who is victimized. This is a broad and inclusive definition; a victim of Hate Crime does not have to be a member of a minority group, or someone who is considered to be a 'vulnerable' person. Anyone can be a victim of a Hate Crime.
- 1.3 Hate Crimes can include a range of threatening behaviour, assault, robbery, damage to property, harassment or inciting others to commit hate crimes. Hate incidents refer to any incident, which may or may not be a crime, which the victim or any other person perceives to be motivated by hostility or prejudice towards any aspect of a person's identity.
- 1.4 This report includes details of Hate Crime and Incidents recorded by South Yorkshire Police between 1st Feb 2015 – 30th Jan 2017. As there is no single category of Hate Crime, offences are determined either by the offence itself, e.g. Racially or Religiously Aggravated Criminal Damage, or by an Aggravating Factor being recorded on the crime or incident. Hate Crime Aggravating Factors include:
 - Disability
 - Racial
 - Religion
 - Transgender / Transphobic
 - Sexual Orientation

2. Main body of report, matters for consideration, etc

- 2.1 Hate crime is gaining increasing precedence in national and local crime prevention priorities. Increasing awareness and responses to hate crime has resulted in an increase in reporting both nationally and locally.
- 2.2 Over the last two years, there has been an upward trend in the volume of hate crime and hate incidents reported to South Yorkshire Police, with much of the last year seeing above average volumes. The year on year increase is 2% lower than the previous report (46% when 2015/16 is compared to 2014/15). During the last 2 years (1st Feb 2015 – 30th Jan 2017), 928 hate crimes and 533 hate incidents were recorded. Figure 1 illustrates the trend of recorded hate crime and hate incidents over the past 2 years. The orange line indicates the monthly average.



- 2.3 Racially aggravated hate crime is the most common type of reported hate crime and hate incidents in Sheffield (82.7% of all hate crime and incidents in the last 2 years were racially aggravated). This reflects the national trend and it is accepted that whilst underreporting exists for all hate crime and incidents, significant underreporting is most prevalent within certain groups, particularly disability and transgender hate crimes.
- 2.4 The sexual orientation aggravating factor recorded the second highest volume of hate crimes and incidents in Sheffield in the last 2 years (11.7%).

3. What does this mean for the people of Sheffield?

3.1 Hate Crime features in South Yorkshire Police’s (SYP) Force Strategic Assessment 2016 as a medium risk thematic area, based on the probability and impact of an event. In light of concerns around the under-reporting of Hate Crime, there has been ongoing work to increase confidence, provide more accessible reporting through online and third party reporting centres and improve crime-recording standards. Consequently, there has been an increase in hate crime reported to the force, which is a strong indicator that the actions and engagement undertaken by SYP and nationally, has increased awareness and confidence to report crimes and incidents.

4. Recommendation

4.1 The Committee is asked to consider the report.

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