

Building Communities Together Partnership

Update for HWB Steering Group



Building Communities
Together Partnership

Current Activity

- The Partnership is due to meet on 16 April 2024.
- Updates will be given on the status of this year's Strategic Assessment and subsequent review of the Partnership Plan.

Serious Violence

- The Reducing Serious Violence Steering Group last met on 7 March 2024 Chaired by Chief Inspector David Whiteaker.
- Serious Violence Strategy 2024/25 was submitted to the Home Office via the OPCC and has been published locally.
- Under the Serious Violence duty, a yearly needs analysis will be completed by the end of the 2nd Qtr. 2024/25 alongside a review of the current plan (by the end of November 2024). This will inform the Serious Violence Strategy for 2025/26.
- Safer Streets Fund project has faced a reduction in funding from the Home Office for 2024/25 but work on each of the five interventions continues. The first 'clean up' day took place on 13th February. Work is progressing on the CCTV with locations identified, provider and installer agreed, type of cameras selected, and funding secured. Interviews recently took place for the Project Coordinator role and an excellent candidate has accepted the role. Interviews will take place after Easter for the two Guardian roles.

Anti-Social Behaviour

- Work in this area is currently extremely limited – see 'Challenges'.

Prevent

- There are currently two adopted cases in Channel.
- Work to complete the Prevent Risk Assessment following the annual Counter Terrorism Local Profile has been scheduled.
- Next Prevent Steering Group scheduled 23 April.
- Next Channel Panel meeting scheduled 10 April.

Domestic Abuse

- Domestic Abuse Board is due to meet 26/03/2024 and are moving to quarterly meetings (previously bi-monthly).
- Domestic Abuse Strategy 2023-27 is due to go out to consultation on 05/04/2024.
- One Domestic Homicide Review is being conducted.
- 2024/25 funding confirmed for WBC under Part 4 of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021; MOU has been signed.

Modern Slavery

- The next Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Statement covering 1 April 2023 – 31 March 2024 will begin to be written and subject to sign off by Chief Executive.

District Parish Conference

- District Parish Conference took place on Tuesday 30th January at Shaw House. It was a very successful event with more than 50 attendees receiving an update on the recent flooding response, an introduction to the new Council Strategy 2024/25 and a consultation on the Council budget for 2024/25.
- Future District Parish Conferences are being organised.

Members' Community Bids

- The processing of claims from the last Members Bids Panel on 28/11/2023 continues.
- Funding of Members Bids for 2024/25 has been agreed.

Future Actions

- Planning is underway for a Mini District Parish Conference in the east of the district. This is as a result of feedback from the District Parish Conference held in January 2024.
- Report is due to be presented at Corporate Board for agreement on a formalised programme for Community Forums. It is proposed that a task and finish groups is set up to initiate the process and ensure that support is in place from other service areas to assist the BCT Team in the delivery of 6 Forums over the next 18 months.
- Domestic Abuse Strategy 2023-27 will be subject to approval by Executive once consultation closes.

Challenges

- Senior Community Co-ordinator Resolution post is currently vacant as the postholder is Acting BCT Team Manager. The majority of multi-agency anti-social behaviour related case work is no longer being done but any legislative requirements under the ASB, Crime and Policing Act 2014 are being prioritised.
- Domestic Abuse contract with Berkshire Women's Aid is not being managed; this has been escalated.
- Community Coordinator (Prevention) continues to fulfil the DA Safe Accommodation duty via overtime.