

SAFER COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP TEAM – ACHIEVEMENTS 2013 – 2014

1. Anti-Social Behaviour

- 1.1 The focus for tackling Anti-Social Behaviour across Adur & Worthing continues to utilise an early intervention approach, as well as engaging with young perpetrators and vulnerable victims. It was recognised by the partnership that by intervening at as early a stage as possible it not only proved to address behaviours before they were too entrenched, but saved on valuable and often costly resources. The Early Intervention Project process has been key in contributing to support those young people who are at risk of offending or have just started to offend avoiding entry into the criminal justice system. There has been significant success with this project, showing results of over 70% of those young people engaged in the project not coming back to the attention of Police and agencies following intervention.
- 1.2 The Anti-Social Behaviour Risk Assessment Conference (ASBRAC) has been developed in the latter part of 2013 and brings together Adur Homes, Environmental Health, Registered Providers (RPs), Social Care, WSCC, Victim Support, Sussex Police and more recently Mental Health to discuss the most vulnerable members of the community and to action plan to reduce possible harm. This has been a significant piece of work that has been received well by partners and will, going forward be at the centre of a district wide response to repeat and vulnerable victims. The team are also sharing their expertise with other authorities who are looking to implement a similar process.

2. Anti-Social Behaviour and Think Family

- 2.1 The ASB Team has been central to embedding E-CINs locally, as a multi-agency platform for problem solving/ case management of victims and perpetrators. As an early adopter of this system locally, in 2013 there has been a need to roll this system out to other agencies working in the field to support co-ordination and management of ASB and vulnerable victims. Comprehensive training has been delivered by the team to Environmental Health, Worthing Homes, Neighbourhood Policing Team and this remains an ongoing piece of work. Locally we are also using it to case manage families at neighbourhood level as part of the Think Family Programme. The benefits of this work has been recognised across Sussex and as a consequence agencies including Sussex Police will be exclusively using this system to record/ hold case files that can be shared with all interested parties, making action to tackle issues swifter and more co-ordinated. Several high profile presentations have been delivered by the team to assist in the promotion of this system across Sussex.

3. Youth Diversion

- 3.1 Diversionary activities have also been delivered, to provide for those young people who are most at risk of offending/ vulnerable or have a sibling who is offending. The partnership provides funding to support these young people using the arts. Jellyfish, a music programme continues to grow with 30 young people now attending on a weekly basis and such is its popularity that another instructor has had to be employed in this period. The Project enables young people to learn to play in bands, write their own music, develop their musicality and perform on a regular basis. Young people are generally referred through Pastoral Teams in local schools, IST, and Young Carer's.

3.2 Although young people are there to play music, they also have the opportunity to talk to youth workers on a one to one basis about any issues that are affecting them. This has included; issues around drug use, family breakdowns, risk-taking behaviours, mental health concerns, relationships, confidence/low self-esteem & school exclusion. One young man has been attending Jellyfish for 3 years and is now at Northbrook College studying Music. He has also become a volunteer Music Tutor on the Project, helping to steer and direct it each term.

4. Street Community Alcohol Use and Misuse

4.1 The partnership have continued to prioritise two distinct groups of people in order to tackle drugs & alcohol misuse, those being young people and an identified group of the Worthing "Street Community", which for the purposes of this report are referred to as Street Drinkers. Although, it is widely understood that Street Drinkers often have multiple and complex needs of which drugs & alcohol use is the main factor, but not the only one.

4.2 The Street Drinkers Operational Group has been working together (ASB Team, Housing Services, Outreach Workers and Sussex Police) to reduce ASB caused by the Street Drinking community. This has involved a mixture of support and enforcement. It is widely accepted that enforcement alone will not stop those individuals who have addiction or are habitual drinkers from drinking. The partnership approach is to balance supportive measures and encourage drinkers to reduce the number of units they are drinking so that they can start to address some of the contributing factors, for example secure accommodation & manage debt. During 2013 the group has reviewed their process to focus on the top 10 individuals that are at risk and/or having an impact on the community.

4.3 The Street Drinkers Outreach Worker has focused their resources on maintaining assertive outreach to the identified "street community", providing the support element of the street drinking work. Along with the Councils' Housing Outreach worker, the Street Drinkers Outreach Worker has targeted areas of Worthing predominately where drinkers are known to frequent. Outreach workers, typically in high season (summer months) will provide outreach services starting at 6am in order to catch the drinkers whilst bedded down and not too intoxicated that they cannot engage in meaningful support. It is widely recognised that it is again more beneficial to meet this client group in their own surroundings that ask them to present at agency buildings where they could be turned away if intoxicated. This project also once engaged offers 121 support, group sessions and also provides advocacy support to drinkers in order to start getting the drinker into long term recovery and stem the cycle of change.

5. More general Alcohol Use and Misuse issues

5.1 The Joint Action Group (JAG) also put into place a Local Action Team (LAT) to support and address street drinking issues in and around Liverpool Gardens/Montague Street Band Stand in 2013. There had been numerous complaints from local businesses, members of the public and local elected members re: this area and working with the operational group the LAT explored remedies to reduce the impact. One of the measures implemented was Section 30 order that gives the Police the ability to serve those acting anti-socially direction to leave a geographical area for 48 hours without returning. This was in place from December 2013 to the end of February 2014 and again in the summer period until the end of August 2014

5.2 ACPO Alcohol Harm Reduction week was held in September 2013, which is a national campaign highlighting the realities of dealing with drunkenness and alcohol-related

incidents. Sussex Police and the Safer Communities Team supported this initiative in order to highlight the local impact it has on both the police service and partner agencies.

6. Night-Time Economy - Worthing

6.1 The campaign, 'Operation Marble' (Policing of the night time economy) focused on the night time economy in Worthing over the weekend period during the harm reduction week. This ran as normal but with additional support from extra staff from Licensing and Neighbourhood Policing as well as representatives from the Safer Communities Team, Fire Service and Street Pastors. Nightclubs and pubs supported activities highlighting prevention and local taxi firms reinforced safe drinking messages through the use of poster advertisements within vehicles.

A summary of some of the activities are shown below:

- Nightclubs worked with Police on various days implementing a knife arch as a condition of entry to deter knife crime fuelled by alcohol;
- West Sussex Fire Service displayed a crash car trailer in the town centre to highlight the dangers of drink driving;
- The Police and Safer Communities Partnership Team displayed a "Choose your ride" car in the centre of the town. This car is a twin concept of a taxi and police car that initiates thoughts as to what option you want at the end of an evening;
- Think safe, drive Safe posters were created and circulated in local taxi's highlighting safe drinking options;
- Alcohol education lessons were delivered in local schools by Neighbourhood Schools officers across the district to various young people of secondary school age;
- Tweets from the weekend were posted on various community websites.

6.2 Reducing vulnerability is a priority for the partnership and for 13/14 they have focused and supported a number of projects/ initiatives that contribute towards putting into place safety measures to protect and reduce the opportunity for harm.

6.3 Taxi Marshals have continued to provide a uniformed presence in Worthing Town Centre on a Friday and Saturday night. They continue to ensure that people wanting to leave the town centre do so safely and are accommodated in taxis.

6.4 Street Pastors have also contributed to reducing harm in Worthing by providing support to those using the night-time economy, many of which are often highly intoxicated. They continue to recruit new pastors and have a fully qualified team. 'The Place' was being used in the early part of 2013 as a 'safe haven' where Pastors can take those most at risk and provide a shelter, this later moved to Storm House just a short distance away. Developments of this project, has seen training given to a new group of pastors that in summer months who work twilight hours in local hotspots and parks providing support/ information to young people who might be using substances, demonstrating risky behaviour or who are involved in ASB/Crime. It is envisaged that following this pilot project that in the next assessment period the impact of this work will be seen.

7. Community Tensions

7.1 The Community Tensions Monitoring Group has met on a monthly basis to identify and monitor community tensions and put actions in place, if appropriate to reduce the level of tension. Most have been assessed as low risk. However issues have been highlighted around

travellers and more recently there have been incidents of racist graffiti targeted at the local mosque as well as at a family home. Where risks are identified measures are put in place to address and reassure the community.

- 7.2 This group is seen as an important forum to consider locally impacts of national and international events which could lead to tensions between community and cultural groups, which has relevance to the national government's anti-radicalisation strategy called 'Prevent'

8. Break for Change

- 8.1 This program works with parents and children where there has been child to parent abuse. The program runs for 11 weeks and is run by a range of agencies including: Safer Communities Team, Family Resource Team, Worthing Women's Aid, Rise, Worth and the Youth Service.
- 8.2 Following on from the success of pilot programs, Break 4 Change has now secured funding to be delivered across the County funded through Think Family. In 2013, the project was run in Arun District and was well attended with some very positive outcomes for the 7 families that participated.
- 8.3 The young people work in a separate group to the parent group and focus on therapeutic work where their behaviour can be challenged. They also use creative techniques to practice what they have learnt. This involves graffiti, art, music, lyric writing and rap. The parent group predominately is therapeutic looking at skills for assertiveness, listening skills and building a relationship with their child.
- 8.4 The group is given a CD of the songs they have created to take home at the end of the course. Whilst the sessions are running the group also uses film to start a healthy form of communication between the young people and parents. The young people pose a question to the camera for the parent to see and respond to in the next session. This creates a dialogue between them that runs throughout the sessions. There is a celebratory session at the end when the two groups come together and the hard work is praised.

9. Safer Roads and Reduction of Killed and Serious Injuries

- 9.1 Road Safety is an issue that is consistently raised by member of the public, Neighbourhood Panels and Neighbourhood Watch groups and is a key priority for Adur and Worthing CSP.
- 9.2 The Road Safety Action Group (RSAG) have continued to support residents and Neighbourhood Panels through community speed watch and are actively deploying the speed indication device (SID) in high impact areas such as the A27 at Upper Brighton Road, Grinstead Lane in Lancing and the lorry car park in Southwick. The SID identifies and records data on those vehicles that are speeding through areas. The device notifies the driver that they are speeding by displaying an unhappy face. In certain areas there device has been used to provide reassurance to those residents who have a misconception that their area is being sped in. The SID has been deployed over 60 times in the past 12 months.
- 9.3 In November Northbrook College and the Pavilion played host to the Safe Drive/ Stay Alive project with over 1,000 young people from across Adur & Worthing receiving a hard hitting 90 minute production of fictitious clips and real-life accounts from members of the

emergency services and members of the public who have been directly affected by a road incident. The event tackles many of the common dangers for young people e.g. peer pressure, drink driving, speeding, not wearing seatbelts and the distraction of mobile phones. Young people were also able to hear first-hand the experience of a mother who lost two children in road accidents. This project always proves thought provoking and for those that attend, an emotional experience not to be forgotten!

10. The Joint Action Group (JAG) and Local Action Teams (LATs)

- 10.1 The Joint Action Group (JAG) responds to emerging crime patterns and threats, as well as planning projects/ initiatives to mitigate the impact of seasonal peaks and trends.
- 10.2 During 2013 there have been a number of time limited Local Action Teams drawing together key professionals and local stakeholders, set up to address emerging crime trends. These include:
- Burglary other than dwelling
 - Cycle theft (current)
 - Various vehicle crime to include
 - theft from insecure cars
 - theft of high value tools from tradesmen's vans
 - damage to vehicles
 - Intelligence gathering
 - Outlets for stolen property
 - Publicising IMMOBILISE, a free site registering details of property
 - Street drinkers and associated issues as described above
- 10.3 The vehicles crime LAT, Chaired by Cabinet Member of Adur Council, David Simmons, has focused its attention on vehicle crime & links with other crime types such as burglary other than dwelling and drugs. Vehicle crime, particularly theft from a vehicle has risen significantly with a trend being seen across Shoreham and in pockets in Lancing and more recently in Gaisford in Worthing.
- 10.4 The LAT held two public events to raise awareness of the rise in crime of this type and advising residents to remove valuables from their car and completed several radio broadcasts. BBC South Today sending a film crew to capture the initiative and considerable amount of press coverage was achieved. Crimestoppers signage was also erected in hot spot locations, so that residents could report intelligence anonymously in support of police activity.

11. Seasonal Campaigns

- 11.1 Op Tinsel was delivered to address the seasonal peaks in crime during the Christmas Period. Multi-agency focused road shows saw the partnership take to late night shopping nights in Shoreham & Worthing to raise awareness of the crimes that traditionally peak over the Christmas period (Burglary dwelling, theft from vehicle & alcohol related crimes). The road shows delivered crime prevention messages around theft from vehicle, domestic burglary, theft from person particularly focused on purse/ wallet theft and also the risks associated with increased alcohol usage during the festive period. It also gave local residents & stakeholders the opportunity to raise concerns in their area, identify local priorities that perhaps hadn't been identified through traditional data sources as well as for partners to feedback on the activities/ projects that were already in place to tackle issues.

- 11.2 Op Tinsel also put into place additional measures to address the issues associated with the Christmas festivities and the increased consumption of alcohol in night-time venues. Lollipops were distributed by the Street Pastors to those who were vulnerable and intoxicated as have been identified as best practice to reduce noise nuisance. During December Op Billabong (an operation run to deter and prevent shop lifting) was run in both Worthing & Shoreham Town Centres.

Op Halloween was delivered over the bonfire/ Halloween period. This time of year traditionally sees an increase in criminal damage and ASB. Two academies in Shoreham were jointly visited by crew from WSFRS and supported by the Police Schools Officers to raise awareness of the dangers at this time of year in terms of firework safety and also demonstrate the potential impact on other residents of behaviours. Till-wobblers, redesigned this year were given to local supermarkets to display on their checkouts advising customers that they would not sell eggs, flour and paint to those persons under 16 years old over the time period. The Op Halloween planning group have also utilised the partnerships' social media account to promote the Fireworks Code and advertise organised events.

12. Young People's Takeover Day

- 12.1 Following the success of last year's 11 million Takeover Day, in November the Safer Communities Team provided another opportunity for young people to get involved in the decision making processes of their local council. The team supported a group of young people to work alongside the Safer Communities Team, Sussex Police and WSFRS to gain experience of how decisions are made and provide insight into the issues that are important to our residents.
- 12.2 The partnership also hosted the first local youth voices 'Speakeasy' headed up by Adur and Worthing Councils on Thursday 13th June with support from Sussex Police, West Sussex County Council, Worthing Youth Council and the NSPCC. The 'Speakeasy' engaged with young people on a range of issues such as Youth Unemployment and Careers Advice, Drug and Alcohol Misuse, Young People and Domestic Abuse, Staying Safe in a Digital Environment and Local Activities and Projects for Young People. During the event, students had the chance to take part in a question and answer session with senior managers and decision makers and to challenge and ask questions about how and why they make the decisions they do.
- 12.3 Feedback gathered on the day has been used to inform the work of officers involved in the day both locally and nationally. Young people's views on E-safety and what internet based organizations should be doing to keep young people safe was shared with Maria Miller, Culture Secretary in time for her meeting with Facebook, Google and other organizations on June 18th. They called for them to do more to make reporting easier and to make it more difficult for inappropriate content to be posted online.
- 12.4 Young people who took part in the Drug and Alcohol workshop worked with the Safer Communities Team and the Police to identify how they would want to receive services and education about substance misuse as well as exploring the law around them. This feedback was directly inputted into a bid to Reaching Communities to fund substance misuse work in the local area.