

Health and Wellbeing Board

27th April 2021

West Midlands Police Intervention and Prevention activities in support of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy

1. Purpose

This report highlights those areas of the West Midlands Police (WMP) This Work Matters strategy to prevent crime, protect the public and help those in need in support of the wider Health and Wellbeing Strategy

2. Recommendations

That the Health and Wellbeing Board notes the activity undertaken by West Midlands Police in support of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

3. Report detail

- The West Midlands Police “This Work Matters” Strategy describes how the police will support the delivery of the Police and Crime Commissioners Police and Crime Plan
- West Midlands Police continues to focus activity towards prevention of crime, protecting the public and helping those in need.
- **Connect with People**
- WMP are seeking to involve communities in policing with more opportunities to volunteer and shape policing priorities. We will set clear standards for service delivery, measure compliance and seek feedback. We will continue to improve our response to those in need, improving our response in partnership with others.
- Neighbourhood Teams are tasked to build trust with their communities, with a particular focus on young people, the vulnerable and diverse communities. Where crime, antisocial behaviour or vulnerability is reported or identified, officers will engage proportionality and where appropriate identify suitable intervention and prevention pathways with or through our partners. This work should be conducted proactively wherever possible to reduce harm at the earliest opportunity

- Policing activity locally is regularly scrutinised by the independently chaired Strategic Community Reference Group. This group includes representatives from a number of Walsall's diverse communities but its membership is consistently under review to ensure it is as reflective of the communities we serve as possible.
- **Act with Precision**
- We will continue to prevent crime and bring offenders to justice for burglary, organised vehicle crime and robbery.
- A priority focus for WMP has been Impact Areas – Walsall Town Centre. Our focus in this location is to reduce crime and antisocial behaviour and increase feelings of safety by managing vulnerable individuals into treatment to improve the economic viability and prosperity of the place.
- WMP has continued to work throughout the pandemic to prevent violence in public places, focusing on high footfall areas such as the town centre and the limited community events / gatherings which have taken place.
- **Improve through Innovation**
- Opportunities have been sought to use technology in support of the Walsall Plan priorities. Over the last 12 months staff have been with mobile devices, body worn video and an increasing number of Neighbourhood Team officers in Walsall are now trained to carry Taser.
- **Collaborate in Partnership**
- WMP aim to advance our commercial offer by maximising collaborative opportunities
- WMP continue to work with communities to increase the level and frequency of citizen participation in creating safer communities (Street watch, Active Citizen Funding) as well as using new and developing technologies.
- Police and partners continue to work actively with Walsall communities to educate, identify and intervene early with those at risk of exploitation and those perpetrating such offences through the joint LA / Police chaired Exploitation Panel
- WMP continues to support and advocate the introduction of an integrated Community Safety Unit Safer improve service delivery and outcomes in a cost efficient manner

- WMP continues to support the development of a systematic and coordinated partnership approach to the prevention of violence. In Walsall the police work with partners, statutory and third sector to tackle vulnerabilities and reduce the impact of adverse childhood experiences.
- **Nature and Support**
- WMP is committed to supporting people with mental health needs, introducing Mental Health tactical advisors whose focus is the wellbeing of individuals in crisis.

4. Implications for Joint Working arrangements:

- West Midlands police remains committed to working collaboratively with strategic partners to ensure resources and activity is aligned to provide efficient delivery of services to the Borough of Walsall against the strategic priorities identified. In addition to this, WMP remain committed to the delivery of an integrated place based service.

5. Health and Wellbeing Priorities:

- The Walsall Plan has identified three priorities:
 1. Preventing Violence
 2. Getting Walsall Active
 3. Regeneration of Walsall town centre
- West Midlands police contribute to all three priorities working in partnership to achieve early identification of issues, intervention and prevention activity.

Background papers

West Midlands Police “This Work Matters” Strategy

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