

Health and Wellbeing Board

24 April 2017

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 Ambition Plan to prevent crime, protect the public and help those in need that support 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 Ambition Plan lays out how the police support the delivery of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan.
- West Midlands Police (WMP) are re-shaping activities so that the focus is on preventing crime, protecting the public and helping those in need.
- **Building Trust and confidence in our police**
- WMP are building trust and confidence through fairness, transparency and honesty in the way we interact with the public, partners and people, promoting an ethos of procedural justice in all interactions.
- Local Neighbourhood Teams especially focus on building trust with children and young people, the vulnerable and those from diverse communities. Where crime, antisocial behaviour or vulnerability is identified, officers engage proportionately and if necessary, identify suitable intervention and prevention pathways or activity with partners. Where appropriate, emerging offenders are considered for diversion in to early intervention through the Walsall Youth Out of Court Panel or restorative justice programmes.
- Local police activity is scrutinised by an independent Strategic Community Reference Group, made up of representatives from diverse communities from across the Borough of Walsall, which meets regularly to discuss local policing issues.

- **Strengthening communities and growing the economy**

- WMP are working with communities to increase citizen participation in creating safer communities. The Active Citizen programme, run in partnership with Walsall College, One Walsall and the Local Authority, provides a structured learning programme in community engagement and supports activated citizens to deliver local problem solving projects linked to community safety.
- The police and partners actively work with Walsall communities to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism and ensure they are given appropriate advice and support, thus reducing threat from radicalisation and building community cohesion.
- Calls for service are risk assessed to ensure a proportionate and appropriate response. In Walsall the police are working with partners to develop a locality based model to ensure support to vulnerable individuals, vulnerable families, vulnerable locations and vulnerable themes.
- WMP work with partners to develop consistent approaches to offender diversionary pathways, focussing particularly on sex offenders, domestic abuse offenders and women offenders.
- WMP strives to better support people with mental health needs, contributing to a Triage Team which is a multi-agency approach to dealing with individuals in Mental Health Crisis involving police officers, mental health nurses and paramedics.

- **Protecting people from harm**

- WMP through building confidence with communities, work to increase reporting and increase prosecution of hidden crimes such as domestic abuse, child sexual exploitation, modern day slavery, female genital mutilation and honour based violence. Working with partners in localities will assist in identification and support to vulnerable individuals and appropriate intervention and pathways to prevent reoffending.
- WMP continues to contribute to the development of a systematic and coordinated partnership approach to preventing violence through the West Midlands Violence Prevention Alliance and development of West Midlands Police Violence Reduction Strategy. In Walsall the police work with key partners to tackle the Trio of Vulnerabilities and reduce the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences.
- WMP work to prevent violence in public places by a number of means such as deployment of staff to the night time economy, licensing enforcement and use of civil powers. WMP work with strategic partners to bring offenders to justice, prevent further offending through appropriate pathway support for example for alcohol and drug misuse.

- A forthcoming needs assessment on youth violence to provide a greater understanding of the drivers will inform commissioning of diversionary services.
- WMP promote safer travel through good working relationships with partners, contributing to consultations on road signage, design and works, joint operations with the Fire Service and community speed watch campaigns.

4. Implications for Joint Working arrangements:

- West Midlands Police is 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 partnership strategic priorities identified.

5. Health and Wellbeing Priorities:

- The Walsall Plan – Our Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2017-2020 has identified three overarching priorities:
 - Increasing economic prosperity through increased growth
 - Maximising people’s health, wellbeing and safety
 - Creating healthy and sustainable places and communities
- West Midlands Police contribute to all three priorities through working in partnership to achieve early identification of issues, intervention and preventative activity.

Background papers

West Midlands Police Strategic Assessment 2017 - 2017

<https://www.west-midlands.police.uk/docs/keeping-you-safe/about-us/public-facing-strategic-assessment.pdf>

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