

Cabinet – 24 April 2019

Community Safety Plan – Safer Walsall Partnership

Portfolio: Councillor Perry, Community, leisure and culture

Related portfolios: All

Service: Community Safety

Wards: All

Key decision: No

Forward plan: No

1. Purpose of Report

This report provides an update on the current position in relation to the development and delivery of a Community Safety Plan and sets out progress of the Safer Walsall Partnership

2. Recommendations

That Cabinet note the progress of the Safer Walsall Partnership and delivery mechanism for the Community Safety Plan

3. Report detail

Community Safety Plan

- 3.1 Crime and disorder, whether this is a low level or serious crime impacts on our communities and their health and wellbeing. It is fitting, therefore, that community safety is recognised as a priority within the Council's Corporate Plan and the Walsall Plan.
- 3.2 The Council has a number of statutory responsibilities that are governed by the Safer Walsall Partnership (SWP) which consists of a host of internal and external partners who are responsible for working together to protect local communities from crime and to help people feel safe. This includes the delivery of a Community Safety Plan. The last time the SWP updated the Community Safety Plan was through a refresh in 2015.
- 3.3 SWP has instructed officers to develop a Community Safety Plan during 2019/2020 based on an updated annual strategic assessment, of which the Partnership is now in receipt of.
- 3.4 The Community Safety Plan will set out the strategic priorities for SWP and will set out our approach in terms of strategic policies and how objectives are monitored and met. Set out below are the existing strategic priorities for SWP:-

Reducing Violence
 Reducing Offending and Reoffending
 Substance Misuse
 Preventing Violent Extremism
 Serious Organised Crime

- 3.5 A skeleton Community Safety Plan will be provided to SWP in April. The resource will work closely with Localities and Partnerships Team, other colleagues and partners of the SWP and consult with key stakeholders during its development. The work will include a project plan, key milestones and a risk register and will be overseen by SWP.
- 3.6 It is anticipated that a comprehensive Community Safety plan will be submitted to the Council for approval in July 2019.

Safer Walsall Partnership

- 3.7 The SWP has undergone a refresh including changes to the delivery of the Safer Walsall Partnership Board. Work is ongoing to agree to provide a collective response to shared priorities. Future focus for the SWP to ensure the synergies between each of the priorities are highlighted delivering a more holistic approach to the work of the partnership.
- 3.8 The SWP is currently refreshing its community safety plan based on the priorities agreed at SWP with a golden thread to the Walsall Plan. Current initiatives include:-

Reducing Violence	First local knife crime surrender bin at Walsall Town Centre Youth of Walsall – Real Knives, Real Lives Campaign Foundations for Safety Schools Programme Early Intervention Youth Fund Prevention and Early Intervention for Young People Strategic lead identified for Domestic abuse
Reducing Offending and Re-offending	Black Country Reducing Reoffending Strategy Prevention of Youth Offending Increase in CCTV Youth Justice – reducing risks of harm, Inspire Group Delivery, diversionary interventions Reducing Reoffending – strengthened pathways
Substance Misuse	Improved completion of drug and alcohol treatment journey by individuals Improvement plan with the Beacon

Preventing Violent Extremism	Increased Home Office Funding F/T Prevent Co-ordinator and Education Officer 1,746 teaching and support staff trained
Serious Organised Crime	Modern Slavery training for Council and VCS Dedicated fixed term Training Officer Collaborative Strategic Working Group

- 3.9 Members of the SWP continue to meet outside the Board meetings and Council officers meet with regional contacts and the Police and Crime Commissioner to ensure any funding opportunities are exploited and that we are provided with up to date data and changes in Policy and legislation.

Collaborative Working

- 3.10 Resources, both in people and monetary terms, are becoming scarce and there is an opportunity for SWP to improve outcomes for the residents of Walsall through working more collaboratively. To this effect, Walsall Police have embedded a small team of officers and civilian staff within the Civic Centre.

- 3.11 In addition, a scoping exercise was undertaken where a number of local authorities were identified, contacted and asked to complete a questionnaire in order that their responses could be collated effectively. These organisations were identified from desktop research who were already working collaborative under a 'community safety' umbrella. A number of visits and conference calls to such organisations also took place. A comprehensive findings report will be provided to SWP for the member's consideration. A summary of key findings is set out below and each could add value to the Walsall's existing Community Safety Plan:-

- A bank of Increased knowledge and skills improves the Partnership's ability to respond more effectively to strategic priorities and act swiftly to changes and new complex issues that have a serious impact on our communities;
- A wider suite of information, skills and powers to bring to bear on issues of concern;
- Economies of scale in pooling funds and the SWP's ability to draw in additional external funding
- A reduction in overall costs for each partner organisation which supports the sustainability of SWP.

Community Safety is a shared responsibility and requires an integrated approach to bring all the partners, members and communities together to develop strategies to minimise any risk factors and improve the overall well-being of our residents and communities.

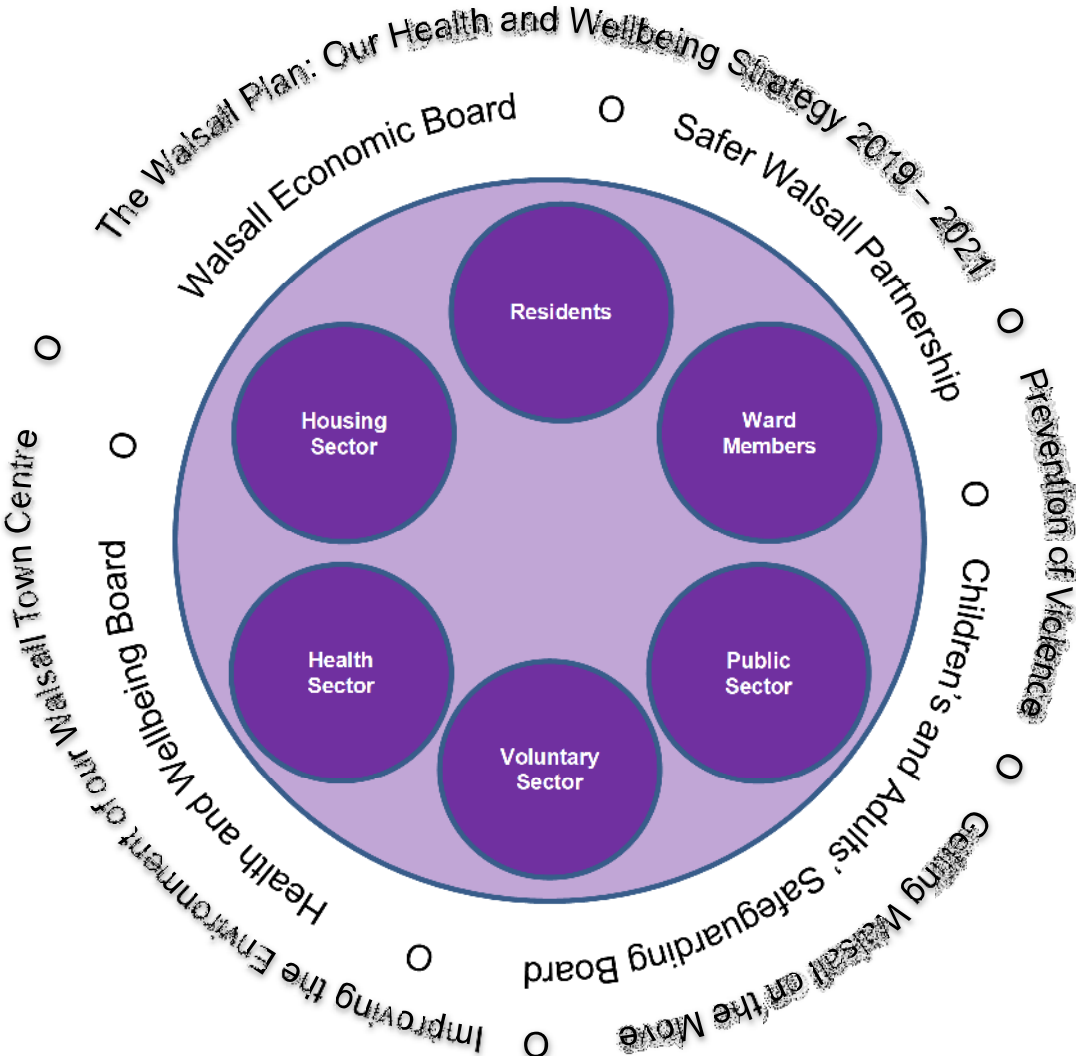
4. Council Corporate Plan priorities

4.1 The priorities and outcomes that will be agreed and set out with the Community Safety Plan will be drawn from those within the Council’s Corporate Plan and the Walsall Plan.

4.2 The priorities in the corporate plan are:

- Economic Growth** for all people, communities and businesses.
- People** have increased independence, improved health and can positively contribute to their communities.
- Internal focus.** All Council Services are efficient.
- Children** have the best possible start and are safe from harm, happy, healthy and learning well.
- Communities** are prospering and resilient with all housing needs met in safe and healthy places that build a strong sense of belonging and cohesion.

The Walsall Plan: Our Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2019 - 2021



5. Risk management

The Community Safety Plan is part of the governance framework within the Safer Walsall Partnership and a project plan together with a risk management plan will be monitored at the Board meetings. The Community Safety Plan will also be required to receive Cabinet approval once the final draft has been signed off by the SWP.

6. Financial implications

None

7. Legal implications

None

8. Procurement Implications/Social Value

N/A

9. Property implications

None

10. Health and wellbeing implications

The Council's Corporate Plan and The Walsall Plan: Our Health and Wellbeing Strategy addresses the wider determinants of health and the Community Safety Plan will have a long term positive impact on the health and wellbeing of our communities

11. Staffing implications

None

12. Reducing inequalities

Addressing inequalities is a core theme within the Council's Corporate Plan and The Walsall Plan. The Community Safety Plan and SWP will proactively promote and support the delivery of the Council's Cohesion and Integration Strategy 2017 – 2020 by using local data to focus on reducing specific inequalities.

13. Consultation

None

Background papers

None

Authors

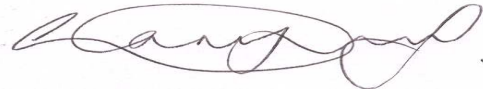
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24 April 2019

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Portfolio holder

24 April 2019