

Safer Swansea Partnership Annual Review 2023

Under each priority in the Safer Swansea Partnership strategy there are three headings:

- Why is this a priority?
- Our aims and strategic intentions
- Outcomes we want to achieve.

This annual review provides evidence, performance and data against the outcomes we want to achieve with contributions from Stakeholders and Partners in the Safer Swansea Partnership i.e. Local Authority, South Wales Police, Swansea Bay University Health Board

Below is an infographic that highlights statistics in relation to demand and occurrences / incidents. The figures provide evidence and performance data relating to each of the Community Safety Partnership priorities.

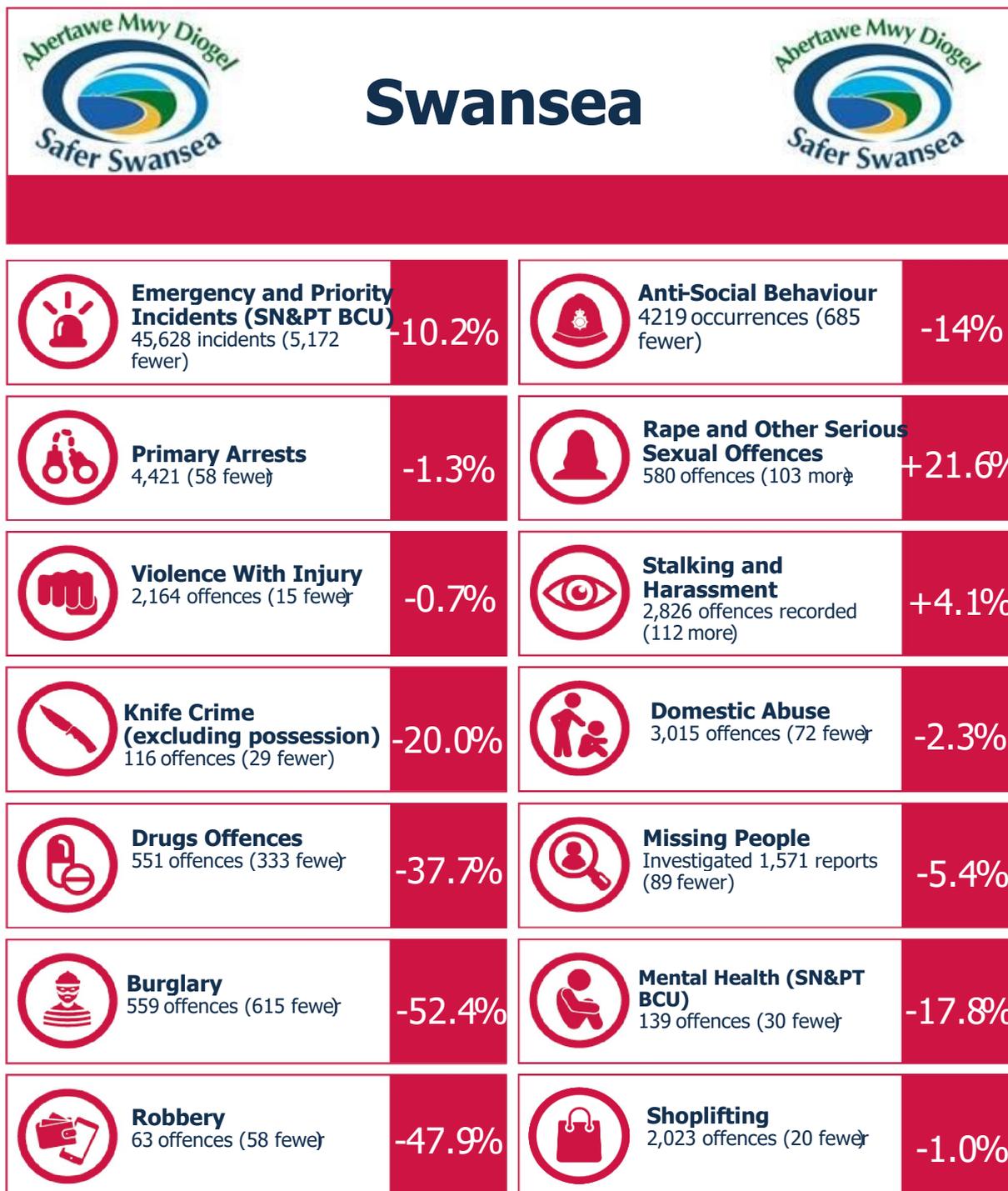
SAFER SWANSEA PARTNERSHIP

March 2024



January 2023– December 2023 figures compared with April 2019 - March 2020.

DEMAND



PRIORITY 1:



Reducing neighbourhood crime & ASB

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) - Targeting problem locations

Evening & Night Time Economy

Contextual Safeguarding

Street Vulnerability MARAC

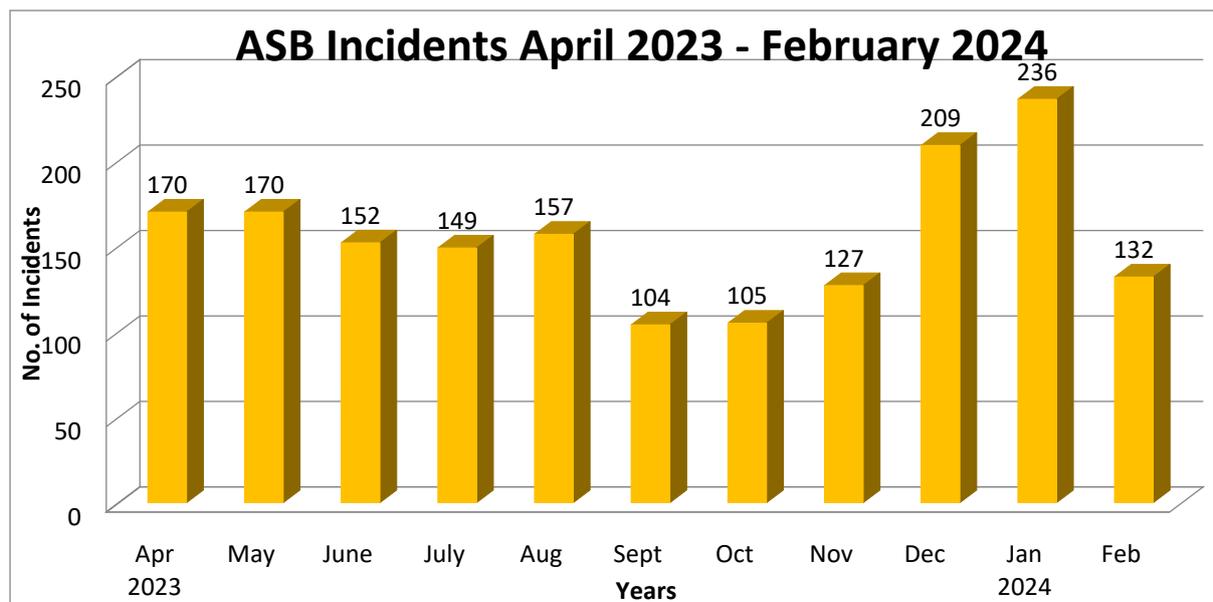
Seek to reduce the number of repeat victims to incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and neighbourhood crime

Anti-social behaviour is not as a series of isolated incidents but is a pattern of behaviour that is almost always repetitive and oppressive, often directed at victims who are vulnerable and live in more deprived areas and is often a prediction of more serious offending later down the line.

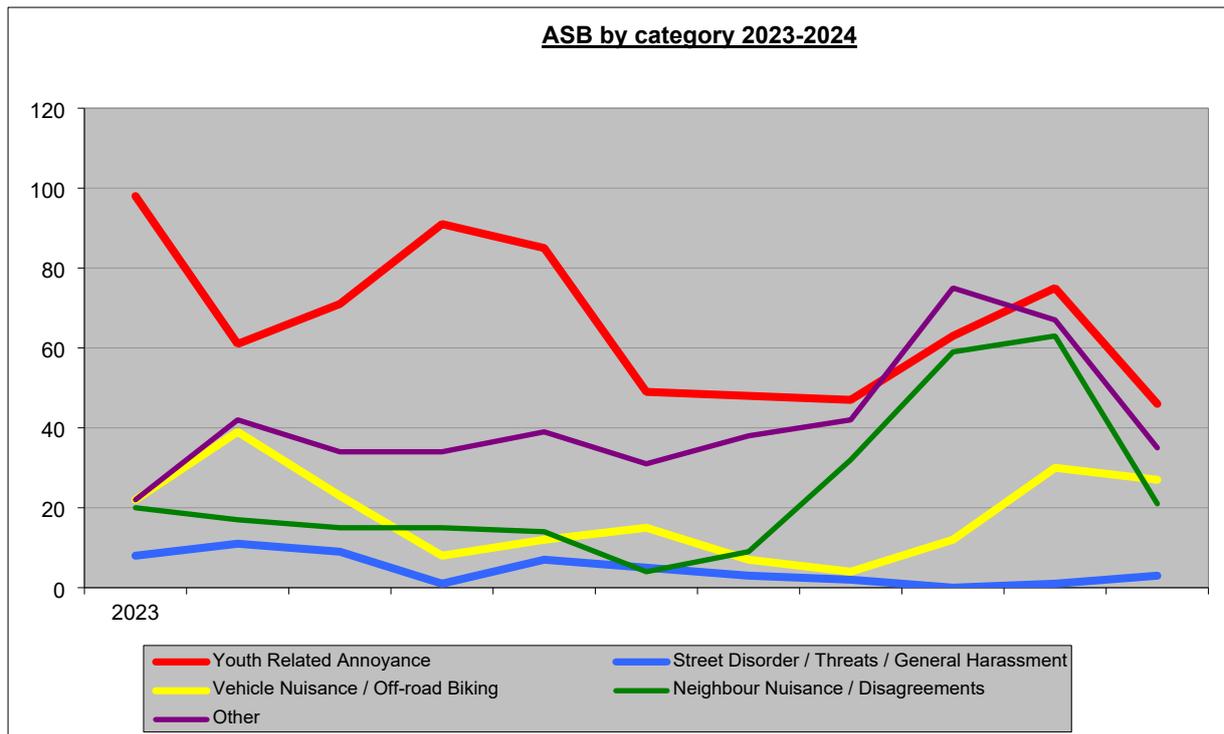
People deserve to feel safe where they live as ASB can devastate communities and can have a profound impact on victims. Any behaviour that intimidates residents or puts them and visitors at risk in our communities is completely unacceptable and will not be tolerated.

Proactively dealing with ASB and providing sustainable solutions will increase public confidence in the partnership and will facilitate increased reporting in this area and the levels of community intelligence.

First table below highlights the number of incidents occurring per month.



The following table highlights the trends by category



Every month the neighbouring policing Inspector for each sector chairs a problem-solving group (PSG) meeting with partners. Within the agenda for this meeting are the top 5 ASB victims and perpetrators recorded on the police business intelligence tool. The neighbourhood teams regularly implement problem solving plans, working in partnership to address individual behaviour as well as hotspot areas. Safer Streets funding was approved to purchase 'community home safe kits' consisting of target hardening equipment for homes to reduce neighbourhood crime and support victims to feel safe in their own homes. Forensic property marking kits were also funded and will be disseminated to members of the community. Both these initiatives will be undertaken within the Castle wards. Significant policing operations are in place across the policing area, particularly 'Operation Viscaria' which is addressing issues in the city centre.

Between November 2022 and October 2023 Swansea Neath Port Talbot Youth Justice Service worked with 341 young persons who were responsible for 383 offences during that time

- The average age of a young person was 14.8 years (males) and 14.7 years (females) in Swansea.
- 15.9% of young persons in Swansea 9.6% of children were looked after children.
- The most common offences committed by children were violence against the person offences (40 Swansea).

Comprehensive ASB profile for Swansea to inform operational tactics

Each Neighbourhood Inspector reviews their ASB statistics ahead of their monthly problem-solving group meeting. Analytical products can be produced which profile ASB in more detail across the Swansea area, however this information is readily available for neighbourhood policing teams to extract themselves via the business intelligence tool. The profiling of ASB informs the operational tactics that are undertaken in each Sector or as a BCU. For example, we know that off road motorcycles

continue to be top of the ASB issues both from public engagement and statistics. Temporal analysis and mapping of the problem informs police operational tactics. 'Op Sentinel' is a detailed analysis of where the ASB issues are and identifies these areas as microbeats to better inform patrols.

Evening & Night Time Economy (ENTE) strategy links to Safer Swansea priorities and works to reduce the impact of ASB

The ENTE strategy complements the overarching Safer Swansea priorities. There is a multi-agency governance structure to ensure a partnership response to the ENTE. South Wales Police Community Safety Team has responsibility for the policing of the NTE with a specific emphasis on tackling vulnerability and preventing crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour. A Funding bid has been approved under Safer Streets 5 and working in partnership will look to provide safe routes home, additional street lighting and to fund additional Police patrols to specifically target predatory behaviour within the NTE. On the 28th of October a multi-agency operation took place between the NTE partners with new initiatives to manage the dangers associated with increased footfall. This operation was successful and has given partners a template for managing future key dates.

Aim to promote and raise awareness of the correct procedures to report ASB

Youth Justice Service deliver sessions in school that cover ASB, the effects and how to report so that young people have an awareness of the process. They undertake this work when there is a request from schools or as part of the CMET partnership Carousel Events that are run through Swansea Secondary schools.

The ASB scrutiny process and report has been completed. One of the 24 recommendations included in the report for Cabinet on 18th April highlights the need to raise awareness of ASB reporting mechanisms in addition to providing stats on ASB. This is in line with the Home Office principles in their ASB Action Plan which will be considered. Once the recommendations have been agreed a multi partnership group will be established to deliver on the action plan.

The Community Safety Anti-Social Behaviour Team in conjunction with the force ASB lead co-ordinator has delivered a raft of training to local officers, PCSO's and partners to reinforce the procedure around submitting ASB referrals. This has led to an increase in referrals and the quality of forms.

Regular messaging is communicated via our communications officer on several of our social media platforms. We have also adopted a new engagement platform called South Wales Listens where residents of Swansea have been approached in person by their Neighbourhood Policing team to sign up and receive regular messaging. Various engagement events are regularly conducted where neighbourhood policing teams highlight means to contact police via approved literature. These events are often held in collaboration with the Safer Swansea or other partner agencies which assists in delivering a collaborative message.

ASB PCSO's will be completing up-skill sessions with Neighbourhood Policing colleagues in the run up to summer to ensure correct processes are followed, particularly around the submission of ASB forms where the offender is not known to ensure we are identifying 'hot spot' areas. Reports to police can be made online, by phone, by email and by QR code.

'See it, Report it' booklets have been produced and delivered to Council buildings, PCSOs have helped deliver them to libraries, hubs and home addresses too. This is encouraging members of the public to report ASB and other incidents providing contact numbers, email addresses and QR codes.

Improve the way issues and concerns are and escalated to Problem Solving Groups and outcomes monitored.

Child & Family Services and YJS are now included in Problem-Solving Groups across Swansea which allows for a more co-ordinated approach to intervention.

Neighbourhood inspectors analyse data from the business intelligence tool to ensure the correct ASB and crime issues are being discussed in local problem-solving groups. Whilst problems are identified through analysis of data, engagement and consultation with local communities through Op Perception and South Wales listens surveys also inform identification of priorities for problem solving groups. Partners are encouraged to raise concerns into the problem-solving groups and we are aware that some groups are operating more effectively than others. Op Sentinel (Home Office hotspot policing) also informs areas that are discussed in the meetings. Each Sentinel microbeat area has an identified PCSO who works with partners to reduce the issues occurring within that specified area. Problem solving groups are being reviewed to ensure the original terms of reference and attendees are being met. Neighbourhood Police Inspectors are now fully aware of the escalation process for issues that experience blockers through the PSG process and we have seen an increase of escalations specifically from PSG's to the Safer Swansea Community Safety Partnership Board. There are also escalation routes from a number of other governance structures including the ENTE meeting and Street Vulnerability MARAC.

Seek to reduce the number of deliberate fire incidents/ off road biking incidents

South Wales Police has Operation Lorocco to tackle the issue of illegal off road vehicle use. A force problem profile has been completed to inform partnership activity. The Safer Swansea Community Safety Partnership are also looking at viable options to provide diversional activities to encourage the use of organised off road vehicle sites across Swansea.

This offer has gone out to Evolve to invite young people with an interest in scrambling/biking to attend two free sessions at the Enduro World site in Ystalyfera. The dates were the 17th February and 2nd March. Unfortunately, no young people took up the offer. This will be revisited as it is a positive initiative, and we will look to offer free tack usage for individuals to use at a day/time to suit young persons. We have also been able to arrange free transport for themselves and bikes via the PCC office.

SWP has a Problem Profile for "E-Bikes, scooters – motorcycles & quads" to inform patrols and problem-solving activity.

Off road bike incidents are tackled by regular off road bike operations utilising specialist force assets, we have improved our response to off road bikes due to the community concerns and while we are acutely aware that the issue remains high on the agenda, we are responding robustly with innovative tactics. Operation Greyla was launched in March 2023 to tackle the illegal use of off road motorcycles and e-bikes. The first operation that includes partners and specialist resources from across the force resulted in a rider of a Su-Ron being followed by the drone team until they stopped which enabled officers to seize the bike and report the rider for motoring offences. This operation will continue throughout 2024 and represents our best chance of success along with community intelligence.

Police work in collaboration with MAWWFRS each year on OP Dawn Glaws which seeks to reduce the number of deliberate grass fire incidents through the Spring and summer months.

Operation Berberis is the multi-agency response to grass fires in partnership with fire service to link with local landowners to identify high risk areas particularly where the urban and rural interface merges. There are specific patrol strategic in place to provide high visibility presence in these areas.



PRIORITY 2:

Tackling Hate Crime, community tensions & extremism

Community Cohesion

Hate Crime

Prevent

Any acts or threats of violence, property damage, harassment, intimidation, or other crimes motivated by hate and bias have debilitating effects on victims and wider communities and impact directly on community cohesion.

Confidence in the partnerships ability to both educate and deal effectively with these issues will increase reporting and ensure our joint response is both informed and robust.

Community cohesion is critical to maintaining safer communities and both an understanding and the implementation of strategies to calm local and regional tensions will achieve this goal.

Doing our very best to be proactive as a partnership to deliver locally on the Government's CONTEST Strategy¹, i.e., Prevent, Pursue, Protect and Prepare, to counter any rise in extremism and acts of terrorism that is critical to community cohesion and safety of the public.

We need the support and confidence of communities to improve our ability to identify those people who are most vulnerable to radicalisation and who may need support and intervention.

Community Cohesion

Refugee Week – The Experience of Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Cohesion coordinated an awareness session on the 23rd June 2023 for Refugee Week, delivered by Displaced People in Action. The session focused on terminology, support pathways for victims of hate crime, misinformation and the lived experience of a person who has gone through the Refugee/Asylum process. Purpose of this session is to help build trust between practitioners and the community to encourage the sharing of information.

Training on Controversial Language: Misogyny and Sexism

Cohesion delivered two training sessions in partnership with Camau to education staff across the region on the topic of Controversial Language: Misogyny and Sexism. Purpose of this session was to support frontline staff during the height of school aged children being influenced by controversial public figures such as Andrew Tate. During the session, participants took part in discussions on the changing landscape of misogyny and how this looks in our communities, the content that pupils are exposed to, how to deescalate controversial conversations and challenge negative behaviours to ensure a safe environment for female pupils and staff. 35 members of education staff from across the region took part in the sessions.

Hate Crime Awareness Week

A Regional Community Cohesion Small Grant Fund launched during Hate Crime Awareness Week 2023. The objectives of the fund was based on welcoming initiatives, monitoring community tensions, supporting significant social and cultural times of year such as Hate Crime Awareness Week and Black History Month and initiatives that help build community resilience. 32 applications were received and

13 groups were awarded the grant. Initiatives varied from welcome initiatives for new arrivals to the development of hate crime awareness materials.

All Wales Hate Support Centre – Social Media Campaign

A social media campaign for Hate Crime Awareness Week 2023 took place across the region. Materials from the All Wales Hate Support Centre were promoted for the campaign which included information on 2023's theme of Antisemitism and broader support for all forms of hate crime and incidents.

Regular attendance from the Cohesion Team

Weekly tension monitoring meetings with key partners

HSAI Prevent Extremism Forum

SIGCE Roundtable Israel/Palestine Conflict

Forum for Tackling Anti-Asylum Activity

All Wales Tension Monitoring Board

Monthly Tension Monitoring Meeting – Welsh Government and Regional Community

Cohesion Coordinators

Channel Panel support across the region

Swansea

Islamophobia Awareness Month

In response to community feedback and an increase in community tensions due to the Palestine/Israel conflict, cohesion delivered a Hate Crime Awareness Session in partnership with the Wales Hate Support Centre to local community leaders and students among the Muslim community. In total 13 members of the community joined the session which varied from community leaders to students recently arriving in Swansea.

Flip the Streets – Project Background

Flip the Streets is an initiative led by Swansea University with the support of Swansea Council. Purpose of the project is to focus on graffiti hot spot areas, particularly areas prone to hateful graffiti and to replace this with positive artwork. The key aspect of the project is to deliver a series of engagement sessions to young people from the chosen area and to discuss the 'big' topics such as hate discrimination and global and national changes. Through these sessions, the young people determine what they would like to see in their community instead of the hateful symbols and narratives and the message they would like to convey. A local artist then works with the young people to help create a community art mural based on their feedback.

The Cohesion team supported Swansea University secure their first funding bid for Flip the Streets from Race Council Cymru's Black History Wales Fund 2023. The first location of the project took place at Manselton Community Centre. After the success of this first project, the council has secured funding for Flip the Streets to deliver 5-6 further sessions across Swansea.

[Flip the Streets: Replacing Hate With Hope - Swansea University](#) (Manselton)

Flip the Streets – Gorseion

The Cohesion and Swansea University worked with Evolve Youth Service to deliver Flip the Streets at Gorseion Youth Centre. Engagement sessions took place with young people at the Centre on topics such as hateful narratives and the representation of young people in the area. Young people then had the opportunity to help a local artist create an art mural on the wall of the Youth Centre. This also supported International Youth day in August 2023.



Flip the Streets – St. David's



Cohesion engaged with local businesses and Evolve Youth Service to support Swansea University deliver their third location for Flip the Streets. This took place at the hoardings by St. David's shopping centre in Swansea City Centre. A series of engagement sessions have been delivered by Evolve Youth Service to a group of seven young boys from Dylan Thomas Comprehensive School. These sessions have been based on topics such as misogyny, sexism, consent and the respect of girls and women. The boys designed the art work along with the message they wanted to convey to passers-by

in the city centre. This has received significant positive feedback from the school, local community and via social media.

Hate Crime Awareness Week – Engagement at Swansea Central Library and the Grand Multi-Cultural Hub

Cohesion delivered an event for young people at Swansea Central Library during Hate Crime Awareness Week. Purpose of the event was to raise awareness of hate crime and the support that is available to a younger audience. A film screening took place for the younger children that took part with their chosen activity being 'The Diversity Flower' in which the young people write different/unique aspects about themselves on each petal of the flower. An engagement stall also took place with partners at SWP at Swansea Grand Multi-Cultural Hub to raise awareness of Hate Crime Awareness Week and the support available.

Anti-Semitism Webinar

Antisemitism Webinar delivered in partnership with Swansea Council's Religion, Values & Ethics Advisor. This seminar was well attended and was prompted by feedback of fear within the local Jewish community in the wake of Palestine/Israel conflicts.

Hate Crime Information Session

In partnership with Victim Support, the team delivered an awareness session on hate crime support on 19th October and included a segment on the work of the cohesion team with 20 attendees.

Seek to improve the number of reported hate crimes and to respond

Between the 1st April 2023 and 16th March 2024 Swansea had 571 hate crimes reported. This is an increase of 11.1% from the SPLY. The increase in hate crimes is largely due to increased tensions due to the Israel / Palestine conflict. Discrimination based on race is the largest contributor with 297 offences.

If you require a breakdown of the reported hate crime figures above based on protected characteristics, this can be provided on the day of the scrutiny committee meeting.

The Community Safety Hate Crime and Cohesion Team is currently in the process of finalising a pilot for a third-party Reporting Scheme to help increase hate crime reporting across Swansea. Third party reporting is about helping individuals to report a crime or incident so that the level of hate crime can be recognised, and action taken. The aim is to place a trusted person in each corner of the community and train them to assist in the reporting process. Only Crimes/Incidents that have happened and pose no immediate threat, risk or harm can be reported by this method. This can be used for Incidents such as Verbal Abuse, Damage, Graffiti, Neighbour Issues etc. The objective is to provide an approachable and accessible source for members of the community to report hate crimes and/or incidents.

Ensure that anyone experiencing hate crime feels empowered to report and feel safe and supported when they do. Housing Service works closely with the police and other relevant partners in relation to hate crime. Hate crime is recorded separately within our ASB data base.

Violence Prevention Nurses working in the Emergency Department, Morriston Hospital report incidents of assaults with or without weapons and disclose if this is believed to be a hate crime.

Support and protection for victims of hate crime

Two full time Hate Crime Police officers are now established in post, along with a Sergeant who is experienced in this area of business, having come from SWP's headquarters Equality Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) team. The community cohesions team now have a constant dialogue with the cultural HUB and provide a wide range of support to protect victim's of crime. This includes the monitoring of all hate crime and incidents that take place within Swansea offering bespoke support to victims and identifying Repeat Victims who are given enhanced protection. This data is also fed into local PSG's to inform patrols and problem solving by local neighbourhood teams.

Tenants who find themselves victims of hate crime will be supported and on a practical level Housing Service can assist with target hardening, NSU patrols etc to make the victim feel safe in their home whilst also considering environmental improvements to reduce opportunities for hate crime. Housing will also support a victim who might choose to move.

The local authority community safety officer also undertakes target hardening work and the installation of home security packs for residents who are not Council tenants.

Violence Prevention Nurses offer support to victims, who have attended the Emergency Department or Minor Injury Unit. Referrals are made to appropriate services and if the patient will not report to the Police, then the VPN undertakes this, reporting the crime via 101.

Prevent and Channel

Of the 120 referrals received in South Wales between 1st April 2023 and 29th February 2024 a total of 17 were received in Swansea. This is 14% of the overall total of referrals received in South Wales.

Ideologies

ERWT	5
Mixed/Unclear/Unstable/Conflicted Ideology	2
No Risk, Vulnerability or Ideology Present	4
Vulnerability present but no Ideology or CT risk	6
Grand Total	17

Referral Sources

FE	4
HMRC	1
National Probation Service	2
Policing (CT)	3
Policing (Non CT)	1
School	5
Social Services	1
Grand Total	17

Of the 17 Prevent referrals in Swansea a total of 4 were adopted into Channel where a multi-agency partnership commissioned an Intervention Provider from the Home Office to work with the referrals to reduce the risk and susceptibility to radicalisation and extremism.

Regular training and awareness of hate crime and Prevent for front line staff.

The Western Bay Counter Terrorism Local Profile will be released in the next two months. It is not anticipated that there will be any unforeseen issues. Following this a new BCU 'Prevent Delivery Group' will be set up with police and the L'A co-chairing it. All Hate Crime and Cohesion staff undergo regular continuous professional development. In addition all SWP staff undergo, 'lets talk about race' training sessions. SWP has an Incident Advisory Group (IAG) that review a number of police stop searches on BAME individuals. The feedback from these groups form the basis for individual and collective training.

Swansea children services respond to those at risk of grooming and radicalisation as a safeguarding concern. If there is a significant risk of harm to the child or others as a result of this grooming and radicalisation then a child protection response is initiated. This supports the protection or further harm but also disrupts potential grooming of others. YJS have a victim officer that will become involved if there is a hate crime where a young person has been arrested and seek to take a restorative approach to manage these situations.

All Hate Crime and Cohesion staff undergo regular continuous professional development. In addition all SWP staff undergo, 'lets talk about race' training sessions. SWP has an Incident Advisory Group (IAG) that review a number of police stop searches on BAME individuals. The feedback from these groups form the basis for individual and collective training.

Training opportunities are regularly identified and promoted with appropriate front-line staff.

Health Board staff currently undertake Prevent training e-learning packages and this is incorporated into Level 3 Safeguarding Exploitation Training.

Prevent Training delivered by Small Steps

The Cohesion Team have commissioned Small Steps to deliver a series of training sessions across the region.

Who are Small Steps?

Small Steps is at the forefront of using education, engagement, mentoring and grassroots activity to combat the ideology, activity, and influence of the Extreme Right-Wing (ERW).

Small Steps is in the unique position of having staff members who are either former Extreme Right Wing (ERW) activists, organisers, or even family members who have had a loved one involved, having lived experience of the impact and reality of extremism first-hand. Working in partnership, Small Steps is a strong advocate of developing local answers and upskilling local people to be able to challenge the influence and activity of extreme right-wing organisations and their operations.

Topics include:

Far-Right Extremism Awareness (two sessions 48 in attendance)

Antisemitism and Islamophobia (30)

Debate Not Hate (38)

Patriotism and Identity (34)

Three out of five of the planned sessions have been delivered and this will continue until the end of March 2024.

115 members of staff and key partners across the region have signed up to the sessions.

The area of work of attendees has varied broadly. Those that have signed up to the sessions are from education, social services, police, local third sector organisations, equality teams, community safety partnership teams and frontline services such as local authority graffiti removal teams, security, teaching staff and youth services.

Seek to increase the number of Prevent Referrals through education and training

Swansea children services respond to those at risk of grooming and radicalisation as a safeguarding concern, if there is a significant risk of harm to the child or others as a result of this grooming and radicalisation then a child protection response is initiated. This supports the protection or further harm but also disrupts potential grooming of others. YJS have a victim officer that will become involved if there is a hate crime where a young person has been arrested and seek to take a restorative approach to manage these situations.

Cuckooing and vulnerability training has been in place for several years resulting in officers being able to recognise individuals that are susceptible to exploitation and extremism. 'Op Amdiffyn' is the most recent training which has been mandated to ensure all SWP staff undergo the training. A future risk has been created by Welsh Government withdrawal of funding for dedicated 'Schools Police Officers'. This will potentially lead to the complete removal of Schools Officers, breaking the line of communication between police and schools / pupils. The SWP Community Safety team is looking to

provide additional training for Swansea Neath Port Talbot officers on Prevent to ensure that appropriate referrals are being made.

Staff are alert to signs which might indicate radicalisation via appropriate training and would refer as appropriate.

Staff are advised of the availability of Prevent training and this information is also included on our Safeguarding SharePoint and the Council website and Staffnet.

Improved public trust and confidence that support is available and that everybody is treated fairly.

Swansea children services have been trying to establish a working group to consider Exploitation within ethnically diverse communities led by those supporting the communities with the hope that we develop stronger links within communities we serve. We have struggled to find a consistent chair for this working group but will hopefully be resuming this working group in August jointly with YJS.

Swansea Neath Port Talbot Community Safety Hate Crime and Cohesion Team has a fully resourced team to provide a wide range of support to protect victim's of crime. This includes the monitoring of all hate crime and incidents that take place within Swansea offering bespoke support to victims and identifying Repeat Victims who are given enhanced protection. Hate crime officers maintain a spreadsheet to monitor the progress of all hate crimes. The spreadsheet forms the basis of the bi monthly BCU 'Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel' chaired by a Chief Inspector to ensure that all hate crimes have sufficient oversight at all levels. The crimes are BRAG rated with supervising Inspectors providing updates on all Black, Red and Amber crimes. This governance is already improving the service that SWP provides to victims which is hoped will lead to increases in trust and confidence.

Tenants are asked about confidence in Swansea council as a landlord via 2 yearly satisfaction surveys. Any tenants who experience ASB would receive ongoing support and a follow up questionnaire / interview to understand their experiences and to provide opportunities for learning and ongoing service improvements.

Ensure people know what to do if concerned about someone who is vulnerable to radicalisation or think are being radicalised.

There is an established cohort of Prevent Champions who can provide advice and support for anyone with concerns around radicalisation. This list has recently been refreshed and re-circulated to staff to provide a network of support. The Western Bay Counter Terrorism Local Profile will be released in the next two months. It is not anticipated that there will be any unforeseen issues. Following this a new BCU 'Prevent Delivery Group' will be set up with police and the local authority co-chairing it.

Staff receive training to ensure they would know how to refer someone of concern. If wider communication was produced to be shared with the wider community then the Housing service could assist with pushing out messages via our methods including social media, posters in Area Housing Offices, engagement events, Tenants and Leaseholder magazine

Radicalisation is included in our Level 3 Safeguarding People training and the Health Board facilitate Level 3 Exploitation training. Our Safeguarding SharePoint has information for staff related to Exploitation and the Corporate Safeguarding Team has a Duty Desk Monday-Friday manned by a Safeguarding Specialist providing staff with advice and support.

Establish a Hate Crime Perpetrator MARAC.

Work is ongoing to establish a process where a Hate Crime MARAC can be called as needed. This is currently managed on each sectors PSG. However, repeat victims are being monitored via the BCU's Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel and a bi monthly analytical product.

Produce counter-narrative to assist in deconstructing and delegitimise propaganda/fake news/conspiracy theories around hate crime and extremism

This is a challenging area and guidance and work is ongoing with NPCC and CTPHQ before any public communications are attempted. (National Police Chiefs Council) (Counter Terrorism Police Headquarters).

PRIORITY 3:

Challenging Substance Use

Engagement

Interventions and Treatment

Prevention and Health Improvement

Enforcement (SWP)



Reducing the number of drug related deaths in Swansea (and Neath Port Talbot).

Staff from Swansea & Neath Port Talbot continue to work with partner agencies from within SNPT and the Welsh Government to reduce drug related deaths (DRDs). SNPT staff attend regular meetings where fatal and non-fatal poisonings occur and what further harm reduction initiatives can be considered. Staff regularly engage with support agencies to build trust and break down barriers.

Figures held by the local harm reduction officer will show that SNPT had a decrease in DRD figures for the calendar year 2023, however due to delays in ONS figures, this will not be shown for another 12 months, though local figures would also indicate that the DRD's for 2024 have increased. There are numerous reasons why this is the case, however it is not through the lack of effort and partnership working.

Supt Mark Kavanagh who is the head of the SWP Community safety partnership department within SNPT is also the force drugs lead and was central to developing the force drug strategy. DCI Stuart Johnson who was the SNPT lead for Project ADDER is now the BCU DCI for Intelligence and organised crime teams and is force lead for naloxone, as such there is a strong 4 'P' element within the BCU. Currently the force have 544 volunteers who carry nasal naloxone with 63 positive administrations. Following the positive feedback of the SWP drugs market profile which incorporated the views and expertise of support providers and service users a local profile has been produced and will be shared in due course.

Based on initial reporting circumstances there were 47 potential drug related deaths November 2022 to October 2023 across Swansea Neath Port Talbot. This is a decrease of 21.7% (13 deaths) compared to November 2021 to October 2022 and a decrease of 20.3% (12 deaths) compared to November 2020 to October 2021.

The Housing service works with partner agencies to identify persons at risk through officer knowledge and surveillance.

Reducing the harms associated with substance use

CMET partnership and Barod Choices service have recently put together a joint proposal for the Swansea Safety advisory group for special events in Swansea. We now offer a package that can be bought in by companies running events in our area, this support includes a harm reduction module of supporting young people to understand the risks around substances and support with anyone

presenting in such events under the influence of drink and drugs as well as supporting the events with other forms of extra familial harm such as youth violence and exploitation. We have provided support to 2 company's during the summer of 2023.

A lot of work has been done and continues to be done in relation to police recognising the harm caused by substance use to individuals, friends/families and communities. Often, the individual is a victim themselves and the targeting of the dealers is the main focus, with referrals, out of court disposals, diversion and support (for those eligible) for substance users. SWP and SNPT BCU continue to work with local support services and partners to explore new ways of working and are open to 'piloting' progressive harm reduction initiatives when applicable. SWP understand the importance of early intervention and work with the school liaison officers to improve their knowledge of the changing 'drug scene' and ensure early prevention is shared. BAROD have an embedded support worker within the early referral HUB and are key to the Youth justice process.

A pilot has recently concluded where through DYFODOL (triple S) they deployed staff to assist with the night time economy help point to provide further expertise to those who may present with drug issues. It has been agreed going forward, that Triple S would deploy on key dates to the NTE to provide the additional support and any referrals.

BAROD (and potentially ADFERIAD) have an embedded worker within the early referral HUB and are key to the Youth justice process.

The Housing service engages directly 3rd sector support services and also via our Tenancy Support Unit and Rapid Re-housing strategy to support those who use substances to minimise harm.

Housing teams will identify and refer those at risk of harm to ensure they receive specialist support

Housing teams will identify and report illegal activities such as dealing, cuckooing and associated harm.

Members of the Safer Swansea Partnership have participated in the Western Bay Drug Commission consultation.

Embedding Service User involvement into delivery and planning of services.

SNPT BCU has been designated an Operation ADDER site. ADDER has assisted in providing additional finances and also employed a service user engagement officer to ensure the voice of those directly effected by substance use is heard. The recent SWP drugs market profile ensured that the voice of service users were taken into account with bespoke focus groups taking place. Through ADDER, it has been recognised that improvement has been made in communication between Police, support agencies and service users.

Substance use issues are identified and challenged early through strong partnership working and information sharing.

CMET operational sits on a fortnightly basis and considers monthly non-fatal and fatal overdoses of young people under the age of 25. We discuss themes and trends of substance misuse and any information relevant to preventing harm from substances can be disseminated via this network. We also share intelligence though this network around issues such as illegal sale of alcohol and nicotine products which has contributed to a number of successful disruption warrants across Swansea. YJS have a Choices worker seconded to the team which allows any young person linked to crime to access substance misuse support from the service.

SNPT BCU trailed the fast testing of drugs which were located at scenes of fatal and non-fatal drugs deaths. This was to support the local harm reduction lead to ensure early warnings would be shared with partners and service users if required. This trail has now been rolled out force wide. SNPT BCU working with BAROD and Swansea LA have embedded BAROD resources within the early referral HUB. This process will hopefully start in NPT in the near future with ADFERIAD and NPT LA agreeing to it. Joint visits have been agreed between SNPT BCU and BAROD to individuals who may require additional support for their substance use. SNPT BCU in conjunction with the harm reduction lead co-coordinator have worked closely on a information sharing WASPI, and have been integral in forming an all WALES WASPI to ensure information is shared at the earliest point possible. In an effort to continually evolve and improve the safeguarding provision at the NTE Help Point Dyfodol substance misuse specialisers are now an active partner within the Help Pont as part of a harm reduction/prevention trial aimed at recreational drug users. The reasoning behind this trial is that Agencies and Police are well equipped and understand how to assist individuals within the 'problematic' drug population/market, however the nighttime economy and the risk posed through use of 'recreational drugs' is very much unknown. What we do know is that the use of recreational drugs is on the increase and those who are more likely to be use drugs recreationally and less likely to seek support and assistance.

Housing teams work in people's homes and will often identify substance use issues. Officers will work with partners both to ensure appropriate support is offered but also to tackle behaviours which might impact on others.

Everyone across the region affected by substance use issue can access timely, evidence based, safe and effective quality services

CMET and Barod Choices service offer detached work on regular basis in the community with a particular focus on areas where there has been identified worries around substances, this is in line with the CMET partnership purpose of ensuring young people have the right service at the right time, from people they trust, in a place that is safe. We have developed a strong ethos of taking support to young people in places and spaces they spend time.

Officers and staff within SWP and specifically SNPT BCU are aware of how to refer individuals into support. This can be done via DAN24/7, direct referrals to the support agencies which Neighbourhood officers have excellent contacts, via PPN's or the early help process. Work through ADDER has assisted in rapid access prescribing and other initiatives to ensure assistance is provided ASAP.

Effective signposting to support agencies is in place.



PRIORITY 4:

Reducing reoffending and tackling the drivers of crime

Supporting offenders & vulnerable (IOM, MAPPA, SV MARAC)

Drug market

County Lines

Serious & Organised crime

Increase in number of CTSR's for appropriate individuals in Swansea

Community Service Treatment Requirements is the umbrella term given to the three forms of community resolutions at sentence from Court. They are:

1. Mental Health Treatment Requirement.
2. Drug Rehabilitation Requirement.
3. Alcohol Treatment Requirement.

The supervision of these requirements is robust and is managed by Probation, Dyfodol and the Court service. In addition to this, partners are seeking Community Behaviour Orders (CBO's) which place a positive obligation on individuals to engage with support services. Failure to comply will result in arrest.

Reduction of reoffending rates across fixed, flex and free IOM cohorts within Swansea

Swansea Neath Port Talbot IOM department, currently has 72 offenders between the Fixed and Flex cohorts. Of the 72, 59 are in the Fixed cohort and 13 are in the Flex cohort. The Fixed cohort supervises the acquisitive crime offenders and the Flex cohort manages offenders who are linked to drugs supply / DV concerns. The Free cohort is also known as The WISDOM project, where there are currently 32 offenders in this cohort. These offenders are classed as high risk of causing serious harm and as a result they are engaged with, supported and monitored on a regular basis to prevent reoffending. (WISDOM - Wales Integrated Serious and Dangerous Offender Management). Definitions of the Fixed, Flex and Free Cohorts is attached as **Appendix A**.

Successful disruption and enforcement of SOC nominals

South Wales Police targets the supply of controlled drugs on all levels. TARIAN is responsible for national and regional detection and disruption of individuals operating at the higher end of the supply chain. Tarian works closely with the three Organised Crime Teams in SNPT who target the middle market suppliers. Operations are undertaken on a very regular basis but of note, Operation 'Silk Leaf' ran for three weeks in July where officers worked closely with the Metropolitan Police Service to tackle drugs lines coming in to the area. 21 drugs lines were subject of enforcement action, 32 arrests were made with prosecutions pending. Operation shelduck took place week commencing 18th March 2024 with 7 drugs warrants executed across SNPT, Somerset and the Dyfed Powys areas. 5 persons have been arrested so far with numerous others anticipated. 6 kilos of cocaine, 1 kilo of MDMA, multiple kilos of cannabis a large quantity of Ketamine and £50,000 in cash were seized. Operation

'Pester' tactics continue to be utilised to bulk message drug users interacting with known drug lines. Operation Bridport saw nine individuals convicted as part of a modern day slavery investigation in to a Newport based OCG exploiting children in the Swansea, Neath & Port Talbot areas. Op Sceptre, response and Neighbourhood officers then operate on a local level targeting street dealers and users.

Visible drug and alcohol use and dealing reduced

The exploitation of young people into dealing drugs is an issue being closely considered by CMET partnership and the YJS. A multi-agency network is set up to consider having visible support in hot spots where visible drug dealing occurs with the purpose of disrupting those exploiting children and offering support and safeguarding to those children and young people affected. Detached multi agency youth work takes place when referrals are received to tackle these issues and we work closely with the police with any intelligence we receive.

Housing have invested in additional surveillance across a number of high-rise blocks which have a history of drug dealing activity, recently increased activity has been observed. Teams gather intelligence and evidence which is routinely shared with the police. It is the intention of the Housing service to extend such technologies across all high-rise blocks over the coming years.

Targeted policing, concentrating on County Lines drug dealing, by PPT teams, identify drug lines, sometimes with the assistance from other police forces. The disruption of these drug lines has a knock on effect to the use and supply of drug dealing in Swansea Neath Port Talbot. 'Operation Viscaria' has targeted all forms of crime and ASB in the city including substance misuse. The operation is now 5 months old and is continuing to make improvements in all of these areas in the city centre.

Reduction in the reoffending rate for adults and juveniles

The IOM approach to help reduce reoffending is aided, greatly, by being co-located with probation and the integrated approach with the partner agencies. The data sharing protocol which exists between SWP and probation also is a huge part of tackling reoffending. The close working relationship with the partner agencies assists in the management of offenders and also tackling reoffending.

Reduce reoffending behaviour through Integrated Offender Management

Through the identification of the offenders on the various cohorts, management of the individuals begins almost straight away after their selection. Working closely with probation, Drug intervention / Alcohol intervention, DWP and local housing providers, our integrated management approach takes place. The individuals are subject to at least three contacts a week from police and or Probation. If there is any form of lack of engagement, then we utilise the "catch and convict" policy, where we begin breach / recall to prison processes.

Fewer first time entrants into the criminal justice system

Child and Family Services and Youth Justice Service are working preventatively on a number of projects to support and prevent young people coming into the criminal justice service. YJS have recently received new funding for a "turnaround project" which looks at supporting those vulnerable to becoming involved in crime from entering the system, Swansea CMET team have been successful in a funding bid which seeks to prevent and respond to extra familial harm including youth violence and intend to work closely with schools in targeting those young people with early indicators of harm such as school exclusions.

There are a number of projects, in place, which divert first time offenders away from the criminal justice system. This begins at the various custody units across the force. The main initiative is known

as 18 -25 early intervention service. This service is currently run by Future 4, who receive referrals from custody. Youth justice teams also receive referrals from custody and also from other avenues such as directly from officers who identify low level crime suitable for out of court disposal. SWP, the Fire Service and Youth Justice Service have also recently introduced a scheme whereby young persons under the age of 18 are dealt with by the YJS for low level motoring offences rather than through prosecution.

The purpose of the Swansea Street Vulnerability MARAC is to increase effectiveness and co-operation between statutory and non-statutory partners and to deliver a more integrated approach to offering support to vulnerable persons.

The multi-agency partnership will collate and gather information about a referred individual, assess vulnerability and develop an early intervention support plan to reduce risk and to improve their health, wellbeing, and safety.

The SV MARAC has received 63 referrals.

PRIORITY 5:

Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV)



Challenging attitudes to VAWDASV

Holding perpetrators to account

Ensuring victims have equal access to all services

Early Intervention, protection and support

Training professionals

Educating children and young people

Ensure the voice of the service user is heard and listened to

Victim's /Survivors were consulted throughout the development of the new VAWDASV Strategy 23-26 and were integral to process. We have worked closely with the Co- production Centre over the last quarter and will be continuing to work together to develop a 'Language Toolkit'.

We have met with the Wales Cymru LGBT+ community and Bawso to strengthen partnerships, raise awareness, ensuring that victims have access to services.

We have promoted the Remote Evidence Site through the VAWDASV Partnership sharing the animations and information ensuring that victims are fully informed and supported.

We continue to deliver training on the National Training Framework through Ask and Act level 2 &3. We are in the process of developing training for the DASH Risk Assessment which should be completed in the next quarter.

Attended the VAWDASV Collaborate Board in quarter 1, where the new Online Safety Bill was discussed as a result the PCC will be attending the VAWDASV Leadership Group in quarter 2 to discuss further.

Safe Spaces training package sited and comments shared.

CMET youth panel is attended by young people who have experienced EFH, some of these are victims of CSE, it gives the young people a platform and a voice to share their views on the services they received.

Housing service supports those affected by domestic abuse.

All high-risk domestic violence cases are assigned an Independent Domestic Violence Advisor. The IDVA works collaboratively with police to enhance the service provided to victims and promote enhanced safeguarding. Swansea, Neath and Port Talbot hold twice weekly Domestic Abuse Marac Meetings, each week approximately seventy cases are discussed. The meetings are attended by IDVA's who are the voice of the victim and ensure that all partners have an understanding of the needs and wishes of the victim.

Neath & Port Talbot are the first areas in South Wales Police to have independent crisis support officers embedded in stations. RIT have piloted a new investigative structure which will put the needs

and views of the victim at the centre of the investigation. This will provide more structure to listening to the victims needs and wishes. Consideration around 'telling not Reporting' is now part of investigative strategies in relation to RASSO Investigations. The pilot was put in place as part of Operation Soteria and following the success within Swansea Neath/Port Talbot this will now be in place in all RIT's within SWP. There will also be an expansion into other departments that deal with Serious Sexual Offences. The introduction of the Victim Progression Officer is supported by the ISVA's and the victim is considered throughout the investigative process.

Held a focus group with survivors to develop a language toolkit ensuring that their voice is captured and heard.

We continue to promote the Remote Evidence Site through the VAWDASV Partnership sharing the animations and information ensuring that victims are fully informed and supported.

We continue to deliver training on the National Training Framework through Ask and Act level 2 & 3 where professionals are trained and supported to be more confident in reporting abuse.

Referrals through to our IDVA service from the Police and external agencies continue to increase. They have continued to support victims through the Criminal Justice system utilising the Remote Evidence Site in Swansea.

Discussions held with Adult Safeguarding to look at how we can work together ensuring that older victims are safeguarded and have the appropriate support. (ongoing) .

SBUHB have representatives from appropriate Services Groups at MARAC (Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conference) to help inform decision making processes for both Victims. Individuals who have been supported by our health based IDVA have the option to provide feedback via a QR code which is displayed in our acute hospital sites.

All high risk domestic violence cases are assigned an Independent Domestic Violence Advisor. The IDVA works collaboratively with police to enhance the service provided to victims and promote enhanced safeguarding. Swansea, Neath and Port Talbot hold twice weekly Domestic Abuse Marac Meetings, each week approximately seventy cases are discussed. The meetings are attended by IDVA's who are the voice of the victim and ensure that all partners have an understanding of the needs and wishes of the victim. Operation Prunella started in November that is a domestic abuse based initiative which aims to target local hairdressers, beauticians, nail bars and barbers.

The initiative was created by the domestic abuse unit, the aim being to visit these establishments and inform / educate about Claire's Law / safeguarding.

Often when visiting a salon / hairdressers customers have one on one time with their hairdresser / beautician and it may be the customer's only time to talk 'freely'. With this in mind and the natural ability a lot of hairdressers have to encourage clients to 'chat' the idea was born.

SNPT DAU officers are working with community safety and local PCSOs in and will visit local establishments on foot. Advice and information will be passed as well as the request for relevant literature to be left at the establishment.

2 x Victim Progression officers are now embedded within the SNPT RIT due to increased demand.

To stop 'victim blaming'

In the last quarter through our Ask and Act Training we have educated staff, ensuring they have a better understanding of the complexities of VAWDASV and the impact on victims.

We have promoted the WG 'Sound Campaign' which tackles negative attitudes around toxic masculinity.

Swansea CMET youth panel have produced a language guide aimed at shining a light on victim blaming language, some of this includes issues around victimising girls who have experienced CSE and sexual abuse.

South Wales Police has provided DA training to all front-line officers. The training emphasise the importance of officers not using any victim blaming Language. At the end of 2022 Swansea, Neath and Port Talbot BCU held a Vulnerability Day for Sgts and Inspectors. The day included guest speakers: Ann Williams – Head of Live fear free Wales and Ruth Dodsworth – Survivor of DA. Both discussed the direct impact use of language can have upon both the victim and the perpetrator.

Where victim blaming language is identified the officer is provided with a one to one attachment with the Domestic Abuse Unit to upskill them and prevent recurrence.

Within RASSO (Rape And Serious Sexual Offences) investigations this is a primary focus, with the investigations now being suspect focussed and considering their behaviours, patterns and the accounts they provide. The use of language is now carefully considered when providing updates and concluding investigations. Officers within investigations have now had inputs regarding victim blaming language, Rape myths and these are considered throughout the investigative process. All front line South Wales Police officers have body cameras, the use of which is mandatory for most instances. This footage is reviewed daily to ensure officers body language, demeanour and choice of words is also focused towards supporting the victim. leading questions such as, "you don't want to go to court do you?" have been outlawed and a great deal of work has been done to ensure this does not happen.

Within RASSO (Rape And Serious Sexual Offences) investigations this is a primary focus, with the investigations now being suspect focussed and considering their behaviours, patterns and the accounts they provide. The use of language is now carefully considered when providing updates and concluding investigations. Officers within investigations have now had inputs regarding victim blaming language, Rape myths and these are considered throughout the investigative process.

In the last quarter through our Ask and Act Training we have educated staff, ensuring they have a better understanding of the complexities of VAWDASV and the impact on victims.

We have met with survivors of VAWDASV and co-developed a Language toolkit which looked at victim blaming language and the impact it can have on victims (ongoing into Q3)

Prevent and reduce VAWDASV

We continue to work with all key partners to end VAWDASV. There has been 3 meetings in the 1st with our Specialist providers where we discuss any emerging themes, issues so that we can take a multi-agency response.

In the 1st quarter we have developed a HBA Regional Forum which includes, Specialist Partners, Police and Health.

We are contributing to the WG Blueprint implementation ensuring that actions are completed and any information is provided.

Through our Regional Sexual Exploitation steering group we have developed a 'Transition Pathway' and this will now be shared with the All Wales Sexual Exploitation Steering Group in the next quarter.

CMET team recognise the risks faced by girls linked to organised crime, safeguarding work is undertaken with girlfriends of males who are being criminally exploited due to the potential risk of violence and harm through exploitation that can occur. This happens on an individual basis and we have also worked with groups of girls affected by criminal exploitation.

A Safer Streets 5 bid has been submitted to the Home Office from SWP and the Safer Swansea Partnership Board. Part of the bid is a concentration on VAWG and public spaces. An intervention that has been put forward as part of the bid is increased street lighting in areas where people may feel unsafe, and has been identified as an area of need for new / improved street lighting. This intervention will lead on to a prevention and reduction in VAWDASV. Patrol - POR is discussed in SMT fortnightly and DaPG monthly where the focus is on Ops to capture golden hour evidence. This with PSS reviews ensures that any learning that is required is captured and identified and POR remain focused and improve.

We continue to work with all key partners to end VAWDASV. The monthly meetings continue with our Specialist providers where we discuss any emerging themes, issues so that we can have a multiagency response and report to the relevant governance meetings.

We continue to promote and develop a HBA Regional Forum which includes, Specialist Partners, Police and Health.

We are contributing to the WG Blue- Print implementation ensuring that actions are completed, and any information is provided. Having met with First Minister Jane Hutt to discuss the VAWDASV landscape and the challenges faced by Statutory and Non-Statutory services in Q2.

Our CMET Team presented the transition pathway in the All -Wales Sexual Exploitation Steering Group. This was very positive feedback and agencies from all over Wales wanted more information on our approach.

Finalisation of our VAWDASV Strategy ensuring that it is accessible to all, developing and easy read version and a summary version.

Attended the FGM Conference ensuring that we have an inclusive response to VAWDAV and are meeting the needs of minority communities.

SBUHB have a full time Health based IDVA funded by the PCC until 31st March 2025. SBUHB also have a VAWDASV Lead Practitioner post to support the HB to meet its requirements under the VAWDASV (Wales) Act (2015). SBUHB have implemented the IRISi programme across the Swansea Bay Region ensuring that residents across Swansea are able to access VAWDASV support at the first point of contact with a health professional. By implementing IRISi this enables hard to reach areas also have access to specialist support services in their communities. The HB delivers Group 1,2 and 3 "Ask & Act" training as per the National Training Framework. The HB Safeguarding SharePoint has information for staff and our HB VAWDASV Policy acknowledges staff victims and provides relevant information.

Increase referrals to DV specialist agencies and Police and Health

Housing service works with partner agencies to refer and support victims.

Swansea, Neath & Port Talbot will implement a new MARAC online case management system. The new MANTA system is set to go live in October 2023 and will provide a direct portal for agencies to refer cases to MARAC and other agencies for support. The new MANTA system will enhance information sharing to promote safeguarding.

SBUHB have continued to provide Ask and Act training in alignment with the VAWDASV National Training Framework. The Health Board submitted their annual training plan to Welsh Government in April 2023 and the HB are on target to exceed the aim of providing Group 2 Ask and Act training to 960 staff.

All victims to have equal access to appropriate services

Housing service has increased and continuing to explore increasing temporary accommodation options to ensure those needing to access alternative accommodation can do so and are supported.

All victims are treated as individuals and without prejudice. All male high-risk victims of domestic abuse are assigned a specialist Male IDVA provided by CALAN DVS. The male IDVA attends MARAC and provides the voice of the victim.

During MARAC onward referrals are made for support and this includes LGBTQ+ referrals to access specialist support via the Equilibrium program. We continue to monitor and drive compliance in respect of Claire's law applications and victim support referrals.

SBUHB Primary, Community & Therapy Service Group continues to fund the IRISi (Identification and Referral to Improve Safety) programme. Following a successful pilot IRISi has now expanded across the whole of the Health board area, and refresher training is set to commence in 2024-2025

Negative attitudes are challenged and communities are educated and better informed of the issues

South Wales Police robustly challenges any negative attitudes. Sex workers, high service users and substance dependent individuals are more likely to be perceived in a negative light but officers are repeatedly educated around their responsibilities in all areas of VAWAG. Officers Body Warn Video is regularly reviewed to ensure that officers are providing the best possible service to all area of our communities.

SBUHB supported partners from Safer Swansea Partnership with events for White Ribbon Day in November 2023. These events allowed the opportunity for further awareness raising around VAWDASV .

Take a multiagency approach to ending VAWDASV

The MARAC is attended by a number of statutory and non-statutory agencies. Whilst it is chaired by police it is a multi-agency forum where each voice is heard. Swansea, Neath and Port Talbot Marac's will implement the 'share the chair', this will be the first in SWP and has been recommended as a result of a MARAC review to promote multi agency working.

Alongside DA Marac Swansea, Neath and Port Talbot is the only part of SWP to hold a SWOT MARAC (Sex workers). This focus of sexual exploitation of adults promotes safeguarding and multi-agency working. Sexually exploited adults are highly vulnerable which is why SNPT continue to promote this forum. RASSO Investigations considered the needs of the victim and provide support to them by working with key partners such as SARC & CPS. In addition to this RASSO Investigations will now consider disruptive tactics for offenders and utilise other agencies to assist with this. This is targeted to reduce offending.

Child and Family services link in with the VAWDASV operational group and have recently produced a transition pathway with adult services to support those exploited sexually as children access appropriate support as adults. CMET team also deliver school workshops to school based staff encouraging them to take a contextual approach to reducing extra familial harm utilising examples of

toxic masculinity and the 2021 Estyn report we don't tell our teachers as an example of how sexual harassment affects school children. WE have also worked in partnership with community safety and the Domestic abuse team on CMET primary school referrals for harmful gender perceptions to help a school support pupils with toxic masculine views.

Housing is represented on the VAWDASV corporate group and will participate in DHR as appropriate to ensure lessons are learned and information shared.

SBUHB are represented at Swansea VAWDASV Leadership Group, Swansea MARAC Steering Group, the Regional Ask and Act Steering Group and the Regional VAWDASV Commissioning Group. Group 3 Ask and Act training is facilitated in a multi-agency format with attendees from all statutory partners, and specialist support from Third sector partners.

VAWDASV is 'everyone's business'

We work together across the Region where it is identified there is a need . Through our Engagements and Communication Regional group we have shared information and are working together to promote and deliver the White Ribbon Day Campaign and launch the new VAWDASV Local Strategies.

Attended the WG VAWDASV Blue Print implementation meetings.

In the 1st quarter it was identified the Local Sexual Exploitation Steering Group would benefit from being Regional, which has now been implemented.

We have been successful in securing the IDVA post for the new DRIVE Prison Project which works across the Region.

Our Court IDVA continue to drives success across the Region building relationships/networks ensuring that the victims voice is central in criminal VAWDASV cases.

All staff undertake VAWDASV training.

South Wales Police work closely with statutory and non-statutory agencies to enhance safeguarding. These include, DA support Services, Local authorities, Housing providers, BAWSO, Substance misuse agencies, National Probation Service, Perpetrator Intervention Program providers and the health authority. This is not an exhaustive list and is constantly reviewed as the needs of victims change.

We worked together across the Region where it is identified there is a need. Through our Engagements and Communication Regional group we continue to share information and are work together to promote and deliver the White Ribbon Day Campaign and launch the new VAWDASV Local Strategies which will fall in Q3.

Attended the WG VAWDASV Blue- Print implementation meetings.

Our Court IDVA continues to drives success across the Region building relationships/networks ensuring that the victims voice is central in criminal VAWDASV cases. She has trained Magistrates and the prison case managers around VAWDASV.

Held a meeting with the VAWDASV Blue- Print Lead around the implementation of a sexual harassment Policy within our workplace. (Ongoing)

All MARAC partners attended a 2 day training for the implementation of the MANATA system which is a multiagency platform for MARAC teams to improve engagement, accountability and service delivery.

Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Group 1 training via E-learning is mandatory for all staff in SBUHB. Group 2 Ask and Act training is required for all staff with direct patient contact.

Victims and perpetrators are offered support at the earliest possible time and prevent cases reaching a point of crisis

The IDVA project continues to support those at highest risk of VAWDASV , referrals continue to increase

The Equilibrium project offers behaviour change for perpetrators ensuring that those who are identified as low - medium risk are offered the opportunity to change their behaviours. In quarter 1 they developed a training package for schools as it was identified by teachers that some boys were displaying negative misogynist attitudes.

We also launched the new Drive Prison Pilot in quarter 1, where those who have a sentence of 6 months were domestic abuse has been identified, will be offered the behaviour change work holding them to account. There now 9 referrals and this project is attracting many referrals.

We secured additional funding from the PCC for a CHIDVA to work part time with Children whose perpetrator is engaging with the Prison Drive Pilot.

Housing is represented on VAWDASV Leadership Group. Tenancy support is immediately available to those at risk of / fleeing abuse.

Following all DA related incidents a Public Protection Notification is Submitted. This is reviewed by a Sgt, then a specialist DA Risk Assessor. Where consent has been provided and this is not considered to be a high-risk case this information is shared with partner who can offer specialist DA Support before escalation.

Routine Enquiry is carried out within Emergency Department, Minor Injuries Unit, Midwifery, Sexual Health and Health Visiting services across SBUHB. The Health Board Ask and Act Pathway requires all staff to make a targeted enquiry where there are indicators of possible VAWDASV and to signpost to appropriate services depending on level of Risk.

Regional and national collaborative approach to VAWDASV

Participate at MARAC. Work with partner agencies to assist in target hardening allowing individuals to remain safe in their own home.

SWP are committed to working collaboratively with partners on a regional and national level. An example of this is the Rapid Project which has been implemented as a result of a joint application by SWP and Thrive Women's Aid to secure half a million pounds funding. This Project illustrates SWP commitment to improve support for victims of DA whilst working innovatively with partners and alternative funding streams. SWP is a Pathfinder force for Operation Soteria which has ensured that there is a joint approach in relation to RASSO Investigations. The approach ensures that all forces work with the same National Operating Model and other agencies that are part of Operation Soteria are CPS, SARC and the Criminal justice System. This will ensure consistent investigations with regards to RASSO offences.

SBUHB have supported the development of a Regional VAWDASV Strategy. SBUHB work collaboratively with Partner agencies in facilitating Ask and Act training across the region. SBUHB are represented at all regional and National VAWDASV groups.

Perpetrators are held accountable

When appropriate, the Housing Service is able to use housing legislation to deal with individuals carrying out ASB, this can be achieved through support and enforcement.

Positive action is taken where DA is identified. It is the officer's objective to complete a thorough investigation and secure a conviction. Where a conviction cannot be secured SWP seek alternative routes to protect the victim, these include the use of orders. For example, Domestic Violence Protection Order, Stalking Protection Order and Forced Marriage protection Orders.

A Neath Sgt recently secured the BCUs first SPO. SWP has recruited two new members of staff to promote and enhance these applications. SNPT has also been instrumental in securing two FMPO to protect a learning disabled adult and also the children of one family who were all at considerable risk.

Whilst police accept that conviction via the criminal justice system isn't always possible police to consider alternative methods to prevent further violence and abuse.

SBUHB have representatives from appropriate Services Groups at MARAC (Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conference) to help inform decision making processes for both Victims and Perpetrators

Victims are fully informed and supported through the Civil and Criminal Justice system

The Housing Service supports those affected by ASB, it manages the expectations of complainants in respect of likely outcomes.

During all criminal investigations victims are kept informed and updated. This is recorded on the computer system and regularly reviewed by supervising officers.

SWP have put in place Victim Progression Officers within Rape Investigation and this will be extended to Serious Sexual Offence Investigations. This ensures that the victim has a single point of contact through their entire investigation and provides the updates needed.

Professionals are more informed and confident in reporting incidents of abuse

Ongoing briefings, training and research into best practice and using the knowledge gained

The new MANTA system will be implemented following a three day training course for all attendees of the MARAC. The training consists is roles and responsibilities, understanding of Risk and swift reporting of DA concerns.

Swansea Neath and Port Talbot Domestic Abuse Unit work closely with partner agencies such as the National Probation Service. To enhance their understanding of DA Probation officers have a full day attachment with the unit. The day also consists of input from IDVAs.

Regular Ask and Act training sessions are offered to all patient facing staff. The Health Board have a full time Health based IDVA, funded by the PCC, who provides support to staff when receiving disclosures from patients. THE HB has a VAWDASV Policy which is available on the HB Safeguarding SharePoint

A decrease in the fear of this type of criminality

Good Communication is a fundamental in promoting support. The SNPT Police communication team utilise positive news stories or projects such as Rapid or DAU Safe packs (basic toiletries provided by Tesco to those fleeing DA) to raise awareness of support and how to access it.

A positive increase in the perception of Swansea as a safe space

CMET team are working in partnership with Community spaces to create Safer Spaces in Swansea, combining work developed for children and young people with that of adults to produce a guide on responding to harm or risk of harm in our communities.

A Safer Streets 5 bid has been submitted to the Home Office from SWP and the Safer Swansea Partnership Board. Part of the bid is a concentration on VAWG and public spaces. An intervention that has been put forward as part of the bid is increased street lighting in areas where people may feel unsafe, and has been identified as an area of need for new / improved street lighting. The funding will also increase patrols of plain clothed officers working around the NTE identifying vulnerable females and predatory males. This intervention will lead on to a prevention and reduction in VAWDASV.

PRIORITY 6:

Safeguarding those at risk of violence & exploitation



Exploitation/ victimisation

County Lines

Knife crime

Modern slavery

Serious violence

Domestic Homicide Reviews

Contextual safeguarding

Strategic Needs Assessment to be completed for the South Wales Police force area relating to the Serious Violence Duty

A SWP Strategic Needs Assessment and Problem profile has been completed via the Violence Prevention Unit, and next steps will involve the development of a local problem profile and action plan with support from the VPU and key Partners. The local Serious Violence Strategic group will undertake this action alongside the VPU.

Serious violence (Homicide, Personal Robbery, Violence with Injury) has reduced slightly in comparison with the SPLY (3496 v 3614). 1252 in Neath Port Talbot and 2244 in Swansea respectively. A third of Serious Violence was domestic related.

The Office of National Statistics knife crime data shows that for the period of July 2022 to June 2023, 50,833 offences involving a knife or a sharp instrument were recorded by the Police across England and Wales, an increase of 3% compared with the SPLY (49,435).

SNPT recorded 180 knife crimes between November 2022 and October 2023, a 14% increase on the 158 recorded in the previous year. Sectors recording the highest numbers of knife crimes were City (50), Neath Pontardawe (36) and Port Talbot (25).

Serious Violence Problem Profile completed for Swansea

Links are being developed with the VPU to establish a problem profile specific for Swansea. This work will commence in 2024 and be undertaken by a newly formed Serious Violence Strategic Group covering Swansea and Neath Port Talbot.

Development of a Serious Violence Action Plan to address issues and provide partnerships solutions to tackling the issues

A Serious Violence Strategic group has been established in SNPT, which will in turn will develop a serious violence action plan with partners to address the local problem profile and develop solutions to tackling them.

Development of prevention and intervention initiatives

CMET team have submitted a large funding bid that has been successful which will mean 2 community teams will be developed which consider extra familial harm including violence and how we tackle this with a community based approach. These teams will be multi agency teams which will focus on prevention, early intervention and reducing the impact of those that are or have experienced harm. We will use our already established CMET network to support this work. We intend to work closely with the schools in the area to provide support to reduce incidents of violence. YOS have a project called the turnaround project currently running which focuses on early intervention to prevent young people becoming involved in the criminal justice system.

CMET have secured funding for 12 month feasibility pilot in responding to youth violence, this project aims to work in the Penderry and east areas of Swansea targeting those age 10--20 with a contextual team around the young person approach to tackle the vulnerability and risk of violence related harm. For full information on the project please see attached delivery plan.

The CSP department are currently exploring the feasibility of issuing banning orders to prevent individuals who have been arrested for a relevant offence from entering any licenced premises within the NTE environment. Intelligence is also being built around individuals who have been identified by 'Op Ferndown patrols'. Two taxi licencing operations have taken place between SWP and the L.A in recent months. The NTE forum has recognised that many taxis are declining to take card payment, preferring to have cash. This results in many females who are vulnerable making their way home on foot. This is being addressed with the L.A who produced a cheaper card system and are trying to mandate that card payments cannot be declined. Taxi Marshals are capturing the frequency of this and feeding it in to the NTE forum.

Swansea Bay University Health Board has a Violence Prevention Team based in Morriston Emergency Department, the service began in April 2022 funded by the Youth Endowment Fund via the PCC. The Team consists of 2 full time Violence Prevention Nurses, working from 8am - 8pm Monday to Friday. The aim of the service is to break the cycle of crime in relation to injuries from violence. The Nurses see patients who have attended the Department, with injury through violence including from the use of weapons. The intended focus is the age group 10 -25 years, however children as young as 8 years old have been seen and supported as well as adults over 25 years of age. Referrals are received by different means and if individuals are not seen by the Violence Prevention Nurses in the Department, they are contacted within 72hours of attending.

Referrals received 1263 (1st April 2023 - 29th February 2024). Referrals made 828 (1st April 2023 - 29th February 2024)

A holistic safeguarding approach offered to all young people who experience significant Extra Familial harm

Young people who experience harm outside of the family home are now considered in the same way in Swansea to those that experience intrafamilial harm. Children service have a pathway to managing individuals at risk and also look at contexts in which the harm occurs.

SWP safeguarding officers are involved in discussions and meetings, working closely with the relevant partners in their efforts to protect and prevent further harm (abuse & exploitation) to the children of SNPT. SNPT CSE officers make efforts to speak to the young persons identified at most significant risk and likewise the exploitation distribution team are involved in undertaking face to face visits with those individual children at greatest risk of criminal exploitation with a view to gathering further evidence / intelligence to enable disruption to perpetrator activities.

We continue to develop our contextual safeguarding approach to create a safeguarding response to places and spaces where harm may occur. We have developed a training package for local businesses raising the awareness of child exploitation and changing the narrative around the negative language used towards exploited young people. We have a strong multi agency partnership that sit around CMET panel, the panel has around 25-35 professionals that attend on a fortnightly basis. A newsletter is produced every month from this as well as a quarterly report.

Children and young people (CYP), who attend Morriston Childrens Emergency Unit (CEU), Paediatric wards and the Minor Injuries Unit (MIU) in Neath Port Talbot are assessed for Safeguarding concerns during their admission. A system is in place in CEU and MIU where all CYP are asked if they have a Social Worker on admission. Staff are trained to Level 3 Safeguarding as per Intercollegiate documents and Health Board mandatory training, to ensure that staff are able to recognise the signs of extra familial harm, undertake an assessment and make the appropriate Safeguarding reports/referrals to support the individual and the family.

Operational and Strategic approach to disrupting those that exploit young people

Operational CMET panel sits on a fortnightly basis - discuss disruption and support. Strategic CMET quarterly basis.

Organised crime groups are identified, mapped and scored with those posing the greatest threat to exploitation of adults and young persons being prioritised. The intelligence cell are now present in strategy meetings where there is suspected to be an organised crime element to exploitation. An example is Operation Bridport where an evidence led prosecution was successfully run against an OCG who were exploiting young persons in the Neath area.

No young person recognised themselves as being exploited or supported the investigation. The SNPT exploitation distribution team are also involved in undertaking face to face visits with those individual children at greatest risk of criminal exploitation (often subject of NRM's) with a view to gathering further evidence / intelligence to enable disruption of perpetrator activities.

Housing service actively participates in CMET

The Violence Prevention Nurses attend multiagency Contextual Safeguarding meetings both in Swansea (CMET) and Neath Port Talbot (Contextual Strategy Meeting). The arrangements for these are different, however cases are discussed at operational level and each agency shares responsibility of actions to be completed to help disrupt exploitation. For Health a 'key note' can be added to the electronic record systems, which in turn highlights concerns to nursing and medical staff, who are then able ask more pertinent questions as to how the injury has been obtained or contact other services e.g. social services or police, depending on the agreement at the meeting. The Violence Prevention Nurses also feedback to nursing and medical staff, any specific injuries to look out for in relation to

exploitation, which have been highlighted at the meeting attended. Any specific issues highlighted at operational level, are then escalated to strategic meetings as and when necessary.

A multi agency approach to recognising and preventing early indicators of youth violence and exploitation

CMET meetings are well established and attended by partners, Neighbourhood Insp's and SWP public protection staff. Individuals are discussed in detail to explore intervention opportunities and diversionary activities. The relationship between local inspectors and CMET Local authority staff is so well established that officers engage CMET staff very early when they identify emerging youth related issues. Examples of this are joint proactive plans to target seasonal issues in the marina and the city centre. Schools police officers also play a vital part in having a relationship with young persons that transcends from the school environment into the community. SPO's are responsible for submitting high numbers of safeguarding referrals.

SWP Schools police officers are currently developing a process with schools whereby we will be informed in the event of a pupil being excluded from a school environment. This information will be treated as intelligence for local neighbourhood teams to be better informed of who is in their local areas but to also conduct follow up visits where appropriate.

The Violence Prevention Nurses (VPN) alongside other agencies are able to refer and report any contextual safeguarding issues to the Local Authority, to highlight the need for intervention in a multiagency approach. The VPN's maintain a database and amongst other information, are able to highlight specific geographical areas of concern or venues e.g. schools. To date the VPN's have highlighted schools and interventions from other agencies have been put in place.

Effective multi agency information sharing that supports the disruption of youth violence and child exploitation

Dedicated staff with the SWP Community safety department work closely with local authority staff processing ASB referrals. This information is shared with the youth offending team who engage with youths who are repeat offenders. They work closely with these individuals, supporting them and finding diversionary activities. The intelligence cell are now present in strategy meetings where there is suspected to be an organised crime element to exploitation. CMET and Triangulation meetings along with strategy scoping meetings have been used to bring all partners together to share information and coordinate responses where exploitation of young persons is suspected. Vulnerability report now gets shared with SS. The ASB Case review process has been refreshed for 2024 to ensure that YOS and the Early Help Team have a place on the review panel to provide a full range of support, intervention and diversion opportunities.

There are 42 active Criminal Exploitation flags created November 2022 to October 2023 on 41 distinct persons under the age 18 with a current residence address in SNPT. 13 mention drugs in the flag details; 7 mention County Lines, 3 mention sex and 2 mention CAWN (Child Abduction Warning Notice).

There are 29 active Child Sexual Exploitation flags created November 2022 to October 2023 on 21 distinct children with a current residence address in SNPT. 17 were created because of Child Abduction Warning Notices (CAWNs) being issued in relation to the child.

Housing are active members of all relevant groups

We continue to have multi agency meetings for individuals, peer networks and places that seek to disrupt any exploitation and we have developed partnerships with policing teams that are in the best positions to support this disruption. We are looking at joint ways of tackling significant issues and seeking support from areas across the UK that have achieved this.

Violence Prevention Nurses attend contextual safeguarding meetings as described above and also attend individual young persons strategy & review meetings to support with any extra information that needs to be shared, or if any other recommendations can be suggested. VPN's refer all safeguarding concerns as per Safeguarding Policy to the appropriate Local Authority.

Identification and disruption of exploitation by organised crime groups (OCG's)

Peer group mapping and contextual safeguarding lends itself to identification of OCG's, Children services sit on the SOC board and also take part in Extra Ordinary SOC board meetings. Extra Ordinary CMET meetings are arranged where there is an incident that links to SOC.

SWP utilises markers on an individual within our systems to identify that a young person is potentially subject to exploitation. These are often young individuals being drawn into the world of county lines and are not aware of the dangers. They are vulnerable and as such, when they go missing, the marker encourages officers to increase the risk assessment resulting in greater focus on promptly locating them.

Visibility on council estates and high-rise blocks using the resources available including housing CCTV

The Housing Service is represented on the Local Organised Crime Group

Children services sit on the Serious organised crime board, we feed in concerns on a quarterly basis and have feedback from police on OCG threats, we have staff that are able to identify potential links to OCG and map out peers and associates safeguard. Our team understand what can be achieved by multi agency partnership to increase safety for those that are exploited.

The local Serious Organised Crime Board has oversight on how Partners respond to the threat of organised crime groups.

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There are currently 15 mapped OCG's in SNPT BCU as of 21st December 2023. 10 of the 15 mapped OCG's in SNPT BCU are drug related.

The number of unmapped OCGs is difficult to quantify as police may be unaware of their criminal activity or they are operating below the radar. The national EncroChat investigation discovered numerous unmapped OCGs because they had not come to the attention of law enforcement prior to the operation. In addition, due to the quick turnaround nature of County Lines they are often identified and disrupted prior to meeting the threshold of Organised Crime Group. Between November 2022 to October 2023 there have been at least 35 County Lines and 68 deal numbers identified as being active in the SNPT BCU and at least 40 persons arrested for County lines operating within Swansea Neath Port Talbot were resident outside of South Wales areas including London, Birmingham, Liverpool and Manchester.

Development of safety within places and spaces young people spend time

Safety plans are developed in areas that are open contextually. There is work in conjunction with community safety team to upskill community members in recognising exploitation. There is also a business pack that is in development helping local businesses to understand safeguarding vulnerable people in the community. Training has begun to be rolled out in the city.

Work around developing Safe Spaces for young people, within the Swansea area has been commenced by CMET staff in the city centre with the aim of raising awareness of child exploitation and increasing guardianship from local business premises. This has included face to face engagement and also information sharing e.g. how to report concerns to Police and Partners.

The Housing Service, when it can, helps support the development of play areas which contributes to the Swansea Paly Network.

We continue to work with places and spaces to create safety and to disrupt attendance if safety cannot be achieved. We have a number of examples of creating safe spaces amongst peers and within areas that can be shared.

Young people who attend health departments are in a safe place to disclose any issues related to their safety, if they so wish and are not being watched or intimidated by anyone whilst in the department. If young people are accompanied and staff have concerns, there are options that can be undertaken to determine a safe space to speak individually with the patient and action plans can be put in place, to ensure their safety whilst on Health Board premises. Staff are then able to contact Police or Social Services to ensure that the young person has a safety plan in place when they leave.

Conclusion

This annual review highlights significant achievement on each of the Partnership's six priorities in 2023 and showcases a number of projects.

In 2024, one of the key areas for the Partnership will be the City Centre and to review the current arrangements around problem solving. Op Viscaria has been successful and now the Partnership need to consider how we can build on that to make our work in dealing with ASB and crime more sustainable.

The Safer Swansea Partnership will also undertake a feasibility study to look at the benefits to co-location of statutory partners.

Glossary of Terms

ASB	Anti-Social Behaviour
PSPO	Public Space Protection Order
MARAC	Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference
PSG	Problem Solving Group
YJS	Youth Justice Service
CMET	Contextual, Missing, Exploited & Trafficked
SNPT	Swansea Neath Port Talbot
BCU	Basic Command Unit
ENTE	Evening Night Time Economy
MAWWFRS	Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Service
EDI	Equality Diversity Inclusion
NSU	Neighbourhood Support Unit
CT	Counter Terrorism
IAG	Incident Advisory Group
BAME	Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic
ERW	Extreme Right Wing
BRAG	Black, Red, Amber, Green
NPCC	Nation Police Chiefs Council
CTPHQ	Counter Terrorism Police Headquarters
DRDs	Drug Related Deaths
WASPI	Wales Accord on Sharing Personal Information
IOM	Integrated Offender Management
MAPPA	Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements
SPLY	Same Period Last Year
CBO	Community Behaviour Order
PPT	Public Protection Teams
DWP	Department for Work & Pensions
VAWDASV	Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence
EFH	Extra Familial Harm
IDVA	Independent Domestic Violence Advisor
RASSO	Rape and Serious Sexual Offences
DaPG	Demand and Performance Group
SOC	Serious Organised Crime
VPU	Violence Prevention Unit

FIXED

- This cohort is the IOM priority cohort focusing on **persistent offenders**.
- Nominals with a **High or Very High risk of re-offending** – This means their risk of serious recidivism **OGRS score is 75 +**
- Includes nominals with both community and custodial sentences (under 2 years)
- This cohort will be weighted towards more serious neighbourhood offences such as **Robbery and Burglary**
- Cases selected onto the Fixed cohort should have a **current** neighbourhood crime offence (Neighbourhood crime includes burglary, robbery, theft from the person) and vehicle theft.

FLEX

- This cohort is locally driven and weighted towards **local priority** offenders (i.e. each area is slightly different)
- Includes those who have committed neighbourhood crimes but have a medium to low risk of serious recidivism **OGRS score 65 or below**
- In Wales this includes our **Y2A transitional cases** who sit in the cohort for 3 months prior to a review
- Likely to include some **females** who have acquisitive offending profiles but not meet criteria for Fixed.
- In Gwent and North Wales this is also likely to include **EMS cases** that are eligible for GPS trail monitoring pilot but do not meet criteria for the Fixed cohort
- This cohort might include lower level acquisitive offenders such as shoplifters who are judged to have the potential to progress onto committing more serious neighbourhood crime. It may also include those persistent offenders with non-acquisitive index offences but who have a similar needs and risk profile to the fixed cohort.

FREE

- The Free cohort will likely absorb the existing Wales Integrated Serious and Dangerous Offender Management (**WISDOM**) **nominals** (This is PDU specific where WISDOM operates)
- For those without WISDOM, Police and Probation can choose local priority offenders to include on this cohort i.e. gangs SOC etc.
- This cohort has freedom to utilise resources to run IOM schemes for other cohorts that would benefit from a similar IOM approach
- Surplus IOM resources can be utilised so local areas can continue to run existing schemes that address cohorts of offenders with different needs risks and offending patterns
- This will encourage good practice to continue in line with local priorities.

