



City and County of Swansea

Notice of Meeting

You are invited to attend a Meeting of the

Special Scrutiny Programme Committee

At: Council Chamber - Guildhall, Swansea

On: Monday, 5 March 2018

Time: 4.30 pm

Chair: Councillor Mary Jones

Membership:

Councillors: S E Crouch, M Durke, C R Evans, E W Fitzgerald, L S Gibbard, D W Helliwell, T J Hennegan, C A Holley, B Hopkins, P K Jones, E J King, W G Lewis, I E Mann, M Sykes, G J Tanner and W G Thomas

Co-opted Members: D Anderson-Thomas, P M Black, P R Hood-Williams and J W Jones

Agenda

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- 1 **Apologies for Absence.**
- 2 **Disclosures of Personal & Prejudicial Interest.**
www.swansea.gov.uk/disclosuresofinterests
- 3 **Prohibition of Whipped Votes and Declaration of Party Whips.**
- 4 **Public Question Time.**
Questions must relate to matters on the open part of the Agenda of the meeting and will be dealt with in a 10 minute period.
- 5 **Crime & Disorder Scrutiny - Progress on Safer Swansea Partnership Performance.** 1 - 5
Questions to Co-Chairs:
 - Chief Superintendent Martin Jones (South Wales Police)
 - Chris Sivers (Director – People)

Next Meeting: Monday, 12 March 2018 at 4.30 pm

Huw Evans
Head of Democratic Services
Monday, 26 February 2018

Contact: Democratic Services - Tel (01792) 636923



Report of the Chair

Special Scrutiny Programme Committee – 5 March 2018

Crime & Disorder Scrutiny – Progress on Safer Swansea Partnership Performance

Purpose	To provide information about the performance of the Safer Swansea Partnership (SSP) to enable the Committee to carry out its role as the authority's Crime & Disorder Scrutiny Committee.
Content	<p>The Co-Chairs of the SSP will attend to provide information and take questions on the work of the Safer Swansea Partnership (e.g. key activities, achievements, and impact):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chief Superintendent Martin Jones, South Wales Police• Chris Sivers, Director – People
Councillors are being asked to	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Question the co-chairs of the SSP on relevant matters• Make comments, observations and recommendations as necessary
Lead Councillor(s)	Cllr Will Evans, Cabinet Member for Stronger Communities
Lead Officer(s)	Chris Sivers, Director – People
Report Author:	Brij Madahar, Scrutiny Coordinator Tel: 01792 637257 E-mail: brij.madahar@swansea.gov.uk
Legal Officer:	Stephanie Williams
Finance Officer:	Paul Cridland

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Scrutiny Programme Committee is designated as the Council's Crime & Disorder Committee under the Police & Justice Act 2006. The scrutiny of the local Community Safety Partnership forms a significant part of this role.
- 1.2 The Community Safety Partnership for Swansea is the Safer Swansea Partnership. It works to reduce crime and disorder, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour in Swansea.

- 1.3 The Police, Council, Fire, Health and Probation Services, along with many other organisations and charities, work together to address community safety issues, and make the City a safer place with less crime. It is recognised that making communities safer and stronger cannot be achieved by one agency alone and success at partnership working will lie in significant reductions in crime.

Further information can be found at www.swansea.gov.uk/saferswansea

2. Questions on Safer Swansea Partnership Performance

- 2.1 The focus of crime and disorder scrutiny is on the examining the work and performance of the Safer Swansea Partnership. Following the presentation of information by the Co-Chairs of the Safer Swansea Partnership about the work of the Partnership, the Committee will have the opportunity to ask questions. Broadly speaking the Committee will want to explore what has been done, how well it has been done and what impact that has made, e.g.

- what are the headlines
- key activities and achievements / progress against strategic priorities
- effectiveness of the partnership working
- relevant performance and crime statistics (including trends / comparisons elsewhere)
- evidence of improvement and impact made
- key challenges ahead and plans to tackle these

- 2.2 This session follows from the Committee's previous meeting on crime and disorder in March 2017 (see extract of minutes at **Appendix 1**).

- 2.3 It is up to the Committee to determine future engagement in crime and disorder scrutiny and how best to incorporate the scrutiny of the Safer Swansea Partnership into the overall work programme.

3. Legal Implications

- 3.1 There are no specific legal implications raised by this report.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no specific financial implications raised by this report.

Background papers: None

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Extract from Minutes of Scrutiny Programme Committee 9 March 2017

**EXTRACT FROM MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL SCRUTINY PROGRAMME
COMMITTEE**

**HELD AT COMMITTEE ROOM 3A, GUILDHALL, SWANSEA ON
THURSDAY, 9 MARCH 2017 AT 4.30 PM**

148 **CRIME & DISORDER SCRUTINY - PROGRESS ON SAFER SWANSEA
PARTNERSHIP PERFORMANCE. QUESTIONS TO CO-CHAIRS:**

Chief Superintendent Martin Jones (South Wales Police) and Chris Sivers, (Director – People) attended to provide a progress report on Safer Swansea Partnership Performance and answer questions. Chief Superintendent Jones had recently replaced Chief Superintendent Joe Ruddy as Divisional Commander for the Swansea area.

A joint presentation was provided which provided information on:

- Partnership Chairing and Frequency of Meetings;
- Safer Swansea Partnership Priorities and Key Activities 2016-17;
- Community Safety Commissioning Review;
- Domestic Abuse Action Plan and Hub;
- Evening & Night-time Economy;
- Purple Flag Application;
- Community Safety Project Work;
- Various Crime Statistics:
 - Recorded Crime;
 - Violence Against the Person and Public Order;
 - Sexual Offences;
 - Theft Offences;
 - Hate Crime;
 - Antisocial Behaviour;
- Sectors Recording Biggest Change;
- Next Stages for Safer Swansea Partnership Development.

The two main themes and priority for the Safer Swansea Partnership were noted as:

- Evening & Night Time Economy; and
- Domestic Abuse.

The Director - People referred to the Domestic Abuse Hub, which had recently been approved by Cabinet as part of the Family Support Service Commissioning Review.

She explained that Domestic Abuse was also a priority for the Public Services Board. The project would seek to develop a clear integrated single referral pathway between domestic violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence (VAWDASV), substance misuse and mental health agencies resulting in timely appropriate support and interventions for those experiencing these co-existing

issues. A Domestic Abuse, Mental Health & Substance Misuse Referral Co-ordinator was in the process of being appointed.

The Chief Superintendent stated that nationally crime figures were going down. However, the partnership found itself dealing more and more with issues of vulnerability and quality of life issues.

Overall recorded crime dropped by 23.1% across Swansea CSP comparing 2015-2016 to 2008-2009.

There was an upward trend in recorded crime since 2014-2015 due to a change in recording processes phased in between April and June 2014, whereby offences such as Anti-Social Behaviour and Public Order were now being recorded as crimes.

There had been a 36.8% increase in violence without injury offences and 35.4% increase in public order offences. As malicious communications was now a recorded crime under the Violence without Injury heading, this increase was due to the re-categorisation.

13% of Violence Against the Person and 19% of Public Order Offences were committed in the Wind Street area, however he stated that a considerable amount of work was ongoing by the Partnership in order to make the public safer.

Vehicle theft and burglary had reduced but the threat, risk and harm had manifested itself in other ways.

The outcome rate for Violence Against the Person was 27.6%, a reduction on last year and below the force rate of 31.1%, making South Wales one of the top performing in the Country, not just Wales.

Due to high profile cases such as the "Jimmy Saville" case and football related cases, there had been a 14.6% increase Sexual Offences reported. The conviction rate at court in relation to rape cases had increased this year to 70%, compared to 44% the previous year.

In relation to Hate Crime the biggest change was in Racial Crimes which had increased by 22 offences. The Chief Superintendent stated that the reporting figure could be higher as he believed that repeat offences were not being reported.

Anti-Social Behaviour offences had reduced in Morriston but increased in the Cwmbwrla and Castle Wards.

The biggest changes in recorded crime were in Moriston, Eastside and Townhill Sectors.

The Director - People concluded that looking forward they were seeking to re-invigorate the partnership work of Safer Swansea. The future challenges would include:

- Domestic Abuse
- Substance Misuse
- Evening and Night-time Economy
- Hate Crime

Members asked a variety of questions which centred around the following topics:

- Increase in sexual offences and violence against the person – whether perpetrators felt they would not be caught / punished;
- Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) – the need for greater awareness and vigilance; whether there was safeguarding training for taxi-drivers, as in other authorities, as a condition of granting licence;
- Education for children in school in relation to CSE / Social Media / Cyber-bullying as well as involving the whole community in raising awareness of identifying issues in their locality in order to protect children, young people & vulnerable adults; the extent to which the Police work with schools about on-line safety and prevention etc;
- Vulnerable adolescents and the support services available via the various partnership organisations - a danger that the individual child's needs (often complex) can get lost within the system which can include the Police, Children's Services, and Health;
- How to cease the cycle of vulnerability that sees people entering the criminal justice system; adverse childhood experience studies (impact on adult behaviour);
- Substance misuse – impact from recent legislation banning psychoactive substances; links with mental health; lack of out of hours access to mental health services;
- Family Support Commissioning Review and proposals for a single gateway for Under 11's and Over 11's;
- Vulnerable adults being targeting in the various "scams", including those on-line; dealing with the challenge of protecting the ageing population from being conned out of money;
- Campaigns to remind the public to be vigilant by locking cars / doors at home, even if they feel they live / work in a "safe" area;
- Findings from the recent scrutiny inquiry into Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) - ensuring that the Youth Justice service and CAMHS are included in the single gateway for family support (as part of the Family Support Commissioning Review proposals).

The Chair thanked Chief Superintendent Martin Jones and Chris Sivers for the informative presentation and looked forward to receiving further updates in due course.