



Safer Swansea Community Safety Strategy

2018 -2021

Working together to make Swansea a Safer, more

Cohesive and Confident Place to

Live, Work and to Visit

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Foreword

Welcome to the 2018 – 2021 Safer Swansea Partnership Strategy.

The strategy reflects the changing community safety landscape and the Safer Swansea Partnership Steering Group will work together to ensure that we are prepared to meet the changing environment in which we work.

The work continues to evolve as a result of the continued financial challenges and new emerging priorities such as domestic violence, substance misuse, child sexual exploitation, human trafficking and modern day slavery which cut across the community safety and safeguarding areas of responsibility.

We need to work together more efficiently and effectively, to use all of the resources available to us in our communities, and to build positive, strong and resilient communities where the most vulnerable are supported and protected.

Members of the Safer Swansea Partnership Steering Group remain committed to working together, building on the success over the last few years and ensuring that Swansea continues to be a safe place to live, work and to visit.

Chris Sivers
Director of People, Swansea Council

Martin Jones
Chief Superintendent, South Wales Police

Safer Swansea Partnership Steering Group Joint Chairs – Chris Sivers, Director of People, Swansea Council and Chief Superintendent Martin Jones, South Wales Police.

The Safer Swansea Partnership

The Safer Swansea Partnership was established in 1998 as a result of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

The Safer Swansea Partnership has a statutory responsibility to undertake annual reviews of Crime and Disorder. The purpose of the review is to become aware of the nature of Crime and Disorder, anti-social behaviour and the misuse of drugs within the Swansea Council area, and then to identify methods of developing and implementing effective action to reduce these problems and direct resources to address them.

The Safer Swansea Partnership will seek to support the Public Service Board in meeting and delivering on the local strategic objectives and priorities.

The Safer Swansea Steering Group is the management and leadership group for the Safer Swansea Partnership where all key decisions are made on behalf of the Partnership. It provides leadership on the Safer Swansea strategy and liaison with the Police and Crime Commissioner on funding and strategy.

The membership of the Steering Group consists of key representatives from statutory partners and other organisations with an interest and influence in community safety issues.

Statutory Members include:

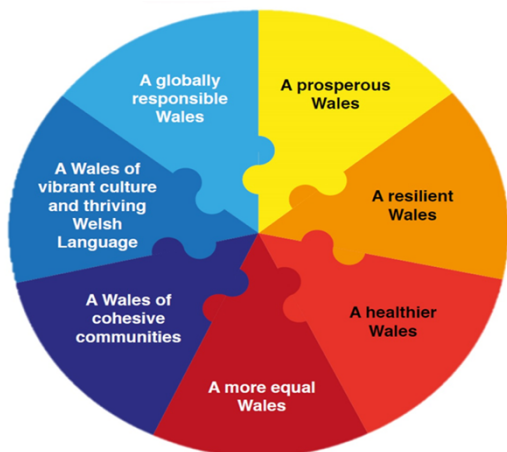
- South Wales Police
- Swansea Council
- ABMU Health Board
- National Probation Service
- Wales Community Rehabilitation Company
- Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
- Western Bay Youth Justice and Early Intervention Service

Other Members include:

- Police and Crime Commissioners Office
- Elected Member responsible for Community Safety
- Western Bay Safeguarding Boards
- Welsh Ambulance Service
- HE/FE Representation
- Public Health Wales
- Third Sector representation
- Others to advise as needed

Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act

The Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act places new requirements on Welsh Government along with 43 other public bodies across Wales to think more about the long term, work better with people and communities and each other, look to prevent problems and take a more joined up approach (*Shared Purpose, Shared Future*).



The Act is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, now and in the future. Public bodies need to ensure that, when making their decisions, they take into account the impact they could have on people living their lives in Wales in the future.

To make sure there is a cohesive the vision, the Act puts in place **seven goals for the Well-being Future Generations**

The Act puts in place a '**sustainable development principle**' which tells organisations how to go about meeting their duty under the Act; these 5 ways of working are:

Long Term – The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long term needs

Prevention – How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives

Integration – Considering how the public body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their other objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies.

Collaboration – Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the body meet its well-being objectives.

Involvement – The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.

The Statutory Guidance for Part 4 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 outlines the collective role for public service boards. The Statutory Duties which can be discharged via a Local Well-being Plan are outlined in Annex A of this document. In terms of Community Safety the table in Annex A outlines the legislation, duty, planning requirements and partners. The development of a Safer Swansea Community Safety Strategy will meet the Statutory Duty and feed into the development of a Local Well-Being Plan.

National Context

In 2017 Welsh Government announced a review will be undertaken on the way public services work together to help make our communities safer in Wales.

The review will make recommendations for:

- Establishing a strategic vision for community safety in Wales which all organisations involved understand, share and build into their national, regional and local planning;
- A sustainable approach to partnership working in Wales developed through the collection and analysis of evidence including UK-wide and international evidence about what works;
- Understanding, defining and clarifying the range of stakeholders and their leadership roles, including that of Welsh Government, police and crime commissioners, local authorities and Whitehall departments
- Creating stronger, more effective and more accountable leadership from all agencies and organisations
- Reflecting the new clarity around leadership by streamlining and simplifying governance to enhance accountability while refocusing activity so as to avoid duplication, and confusion
- Achievement of the wellbeing objectives published alongside the Taking Wales Forward Programme for Government
- Ensuring delivery in accordance with the Taking Wales Forward Programme for Government.

The five year South Wales Police & Crime Reduction Plan 2017-2021 looks at early intervention and prompt positive action to help prevent problems escalating.

The plan sets out six priorities for keeping communities safe.

- Reduce and prevent crime and anti-social behaviour to keep people safe and confident in their home and communities
- Improve the way we connect with, involve and inform our communities
- Work to protect the most vulnerable in our communities
- Make sure that the local criminal justice system works effectively and efficiently, meeting the needs of victims and challenging offenders
- Make our contribution to the strategic policing requirement and successfully police major events
- Spend your money wisely to protect policing in your community

Evidence of Local Need

Whilst developing priorities data and evidence of local need has been drawn from a number of sources to highlight the key challenges as outlined below:

Swansea Wellbeing Assessment

Swansea faces a number of challenges now and in the future, such as climate change, poverty, health inequalities, unemployment and growth.

- **Population Changes** – a growing, more diverse and ageing population
- **Economic Changes** – attracting investment, high quality jobs and new technology into Swansea whilst addressing the skills gap
- **Climate Changes** – risk from flooding, air and water quality, energy security and dangers to ecosystems and biodiversity
- **Social and Cultural Changes** – addressing inequalities in health, education, employment and life chances

To address these challenges, we know we cannot keep doing things in the way we always have; we have to do things differently to make things change.

A link to the assessment can be found below

<http://www.swansea.gov.uk/article/30905/What-its-like-living-in-Swansea-Join-the-conversation>

Western Bay Population Needs Assessment

The Western Bay population needs assessment exercise undertaken by social services and the health boards working through a joint committee to gather information on wellbeing and the barriers to achieving wellbeing for people who need care and support and their carers. Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence has been identified as one of its core themes.

A link to the full assessment can be found below.

<http://www.westernbaypopulationassessment.org/en/home/>

Public Perception

In August 2017 the Western Compass Survey was carried out in Swansea to capture the experiences and public perception in order to understand the issues that matter most to the public and identify how these can be addressed.

The key headline findings in relation to community safety are outlined below:

- The majority of people feel that crime and anti-social behaviour has remained the same in the last 12 months. However, recorded crime figures have shown a decline.
- Additional research has shown that repeat victims of anti-social behaviour have a significant impact on our demand, the majority of which involve partners to resolve and in some cases the victim has mental health related issues.
- 84.6% feel safe in their community, which has reduced from 88.9% in 2014/15.
- 23.8% feel use or dealing drugs is a very/fairly big problem, which has increased from 14.4% in 2014/15.
- 17.0% feel drunk and rowdy behaviour is a very/fairly big problem, which has increased from 9.7% in 2014/15.
- Additional research into Domestic Abuse shows it is experienced by certain household types under the profiling of Mosaic.
- Perceptions that the police and council are dealing with what matters has reduced from 60.4% (2014/15) to 58.6% (2016/17).
- The perception that the police are dealing with what matters has increased from 66.2% (2014/15) to 68.7% (2016/17).
- Likewise the perception that the police do an excellent/good job has increased from 71.1% (2014/15) to 72.1% (2016/17).
- The majority of under-reporting occurs with incidents of E-crime or Hate crime, the reasons being that they feel there would be little chance of catching the offender.
- Satisfaction with the levels of Police Community Support Officer visibility does affect feelings of safety and perceptions that the police are doing a good job.
- Those dissatisfied with the levels of Police Community Support Officer visibility are most likely to be affluent household types that experience low crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Where people know their local Police Community Support Officer they are less likely to be dissatisfied with the levels of patrol.
- The majority of respondents do not feel informed about how local issues are being tackled, the non-emergency number, the nearest accessible police station, and social media.
- People want to receive information via a newsletter or face to face.

Scope of the Strategy

In July 2016, a review of the Community Safety Team was undertaken within the Council and later, through a multi-agency stakeholder workshop, a vision and purpose was agreed.

The **Vision** for Community Safety in Swansea was defined as:

'A place where all members of society can feel safe at all times'

The **Purpose** of Community Safety was defined as:

'Swansea partners delivering a collective vision to create a safe and welcoming environment in which to live, work, visit, trade, study, relax and retire'

The purpose of the workshop held in April 2017, was to re-invigorate the partnership working around Community Safety in Swansea.

The aim of the workshop was to ensure that Swansea's top priorities were identified and reflected in the new Safer Swansea Partnership Strategy and all actions captured in a single plan, providing a basis for delivering the objectives of the Public Service Board.

Partners in Swansea already have a well-established reputation for delivering successful initiatives and positive, productive working relationships that provide a sound platform for further success in achieving the Partnership's aims and objectives.

Regionalisation is also a key factor to consider when developing the Community Safety Plan going forward and Swansea partners will be working closely with colleagues across the Western Bay Region.

Strategic Priorities

The strategic priorities agreed with statutory partners and key stakeholders for the Safer Swansea Partnership are:

- Violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence (VAWDASV)
- Substance Misuse
- Stronger Communities
- Evening and Night Time Economy
- Hate Crime and Community Tension Monitoring

Over-arching Themes

The Partnership has identified two over-arching themes that will complement the work undertaken in all priority areas. The Safer Swansea Steering Group will monitor progress.

1. Reassurance Communication

Effective reassurance needs to be provided at every available opportunity to help change perceptions of crime, reduce fear of crime, promote positive outcomes of Safer Swansea and effectively highlight the importance of the work of the Partnership.

Reassurance is largely a communications issue and not the role of one person, but every Partnership member.

2. Community Engagement

Community engagement is integral to our everyday work. Safer Swansea must improve the way partners engage with members of the public to build relationships based on trust and respect. Face to face communication is powerful and must be used more frequently and effectively in the work of the Partnership.

Important in this process over the next three years will be improvements in two key areas:

- the Partnership and Communities Together (PACT) process and
- Information sharing targeted action meeting (ISTAM's)

Safer Swansea will aim to encourage greater participation at these meetings and promote engagement through a variety of fora. An example of greater community engagement would be to hold events to enable the community to comment on progress on the strategy and feed in information on initiatives happening in their respective communities.

Performance Framework

The Strategy will be delivered within a multi-agency, partnership framework.

Each strategic priority detailed on the following pages outline the areas for development that the Partnership will focus on over the next four years. The strategic priorities are not listed in order of importance, as each one has an equal level of standing.

These strategic priorities form the base of a four year Action Plan which will give clear outcomes, identify leads and key partners who will contribute to progressing the actions and the outcomes identified.

The Action Plan will be developed in partnership to ensure strong senior officer buy in, ownership and responsibility. Through this process, each partner will identify actions, expected outcomes, and strategic leads.

Strategic Priority 1

Violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence (VAWDASV)

Swansea, along with the Welsh Government, recognises that violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence (VAWDASV) is a violation of human rights. It is both a cause and consequence of gender inequality and disproportionately affects women and girls. Whilst it is important to acknowledge that women and girls are overwhelmingly affected by VAWDASV, we also recognise that men and boys can experience and be affected by violence and abuse.

Strategic Objectives

In line with Welsh Government's National Strategy on Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (2016-2021), there are seven objectives.

Objective 1:

Increase awareness and challenge attitudes of VAWDASV

Objective 2:

Increased awareness in children and young people of the importance of safe, equal and healthy relationships and that abusive behaviour is always wrong

Objective 3:

Increased focus on holding perpetrators to account and provide opportunities to change their behaviour based around victim safety

Objective 4:

Make early intervention and prevention a priority

Objective 5:

Relevant professionals are trained to provide effective, timely and appropriate responses to victims

Objective 6:

Provide victims with equal access to appropriately resources, high quality, needs led, strength based, gender responsive services

Objective 7:

Prepare robust evidence to inform our work

Measuring Progress

An annual Action Plan will be developed to drive forward specific actions from the Strategic Objectives. This will be monitored through the Domestic Abuse Monitoring & Delivery Group and Domestic Abuse Strategy Group. There is an increased focus on regional working on this agenda that will be developed with regional partners, in line with Welsh Government requirements.

Strategic Priority 2

Substance Misuse

The Welsh Government published its ten year substance misuse strategy '*Working Together to Reduce Harm*' in October 2008. The strategy sets out a clear national agenda for tackling and reducing the harms associated with substance misuse in Wales.

Strategic Objectives

The Strategy covers four key areas/aims:

Objective 1. Preventing Harm

Objective 2. Supporting Substance misusers – aiding and maintaining recovery

Objective 3. Supporting and protecting families

Objective 4. Tackling availability and protecting individuals and communities via enforcement activity

Objective 5. To develop a Local Substance Misuse Delivery Plan

Measuring Progress

This will be monitored by the regional area planning board and progress reported to the Safer Swansea Partnership on a quarterly basis.

Strategic Priority 3

Stronger Communities

Community cohesion is what must happen in all communities to enable different groups of people to get on well together, whatever their backgrounds or circumstances. Cohesion within and between communities is an essential component of people's quality of life and of their local and national identity.

Community cohesion involves us all, and how we relate to others who are different. It is not just about how people from different ethnic groups, religions or nationalities, relate and get on, although this is a vital component. It also involves us working to break down the barriers to inclusion in our society caused by income equality, or caused by isolation and loneliness amongst older people; or by barriers preventing the inclusion of disabled people.

We have moved to a new climate where a Wales of Cohesive Communities is enshrined in the national goals of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. This ensures that community cohesion is at the heart of how Public Bodies deliver policies and services.

Strategic Objectives

In line with Welsh Government's National Community Cohesion Delivery Plan 2017-20 there are four objectives with a fifth one added to strengthen our delivery of the objectives.

Objective 1. Work at a strategic level to break down barriers to inclusion and integration across marginalised groups

Objective 2. Work at a local level to break down barriers to inclusion and integration for particular groups and communities

Objective 3. Supporting migrants, refugees and asylum seekers and settled communities during the integration process

Objective 4. Supporting communities in preventing hostility and extremism and managing consequences

Objective 5. Reduce and prevent crime and anti-social behaviour to keep people safe and confident in their homes and communities

Measuring Progress

The Welsh Government delivery plan is managed and updated by the Regional Community Cohesion Coordinator. Each regional partners have a local plan which addresses specific issues which relate to local need, this will be reported to the Safer Swansea Partnership Steering Group bi annually.

Strategic Priority 4

Evening and Night Time Economy

Swansea City Centre in the Evening and at Night 2027

Our vision for the future of Swansea City Centre after dark is as follows:-

By 2027 Swansea City Centre's evening and night time economy will be universally celebrated as a thriving social centre for fun and entertainment that is welcoming, safe and inclusive for those seeking leisure pursuits across a diverse range of activities.

The strategy will provide a strategic framework to guide the effective future management and positive development of Swansea City Centre's evening and night time economy as a place where people choose to spend their leisure time.

The Strategy will also be used as a tool by the multiple organizations involved in its inception together with local decision-makers, to promote and demonstrate the value of this sector, influence key decisions, seek support for this agenda and help facilitate funding and resources.

Strategic Objectives

Objective 1. To provide a position statement regarding the current performance of the existing evening and night economy

Objective 2. To establish a series of key performance indicators and performance targets against which the future performance of this sector can be monitored

Objective 3. To set out the mechanisms for the implementation of the strategy

Objective 4. To identify areas of improvement according to a series of over-arching development themes

Objective 5. To provide a *SMART* Action Plan setting out key actions

Measuring Progress

The ENTE Strategy Development Working Group is a multi-agency team lead by the local authority and meets monthly and sets the strategic direction.

This group is supported by the ENTE Operations Group which is led by South Wales Police. Meetings are also monthly and multi-agency in nature but the focus is the oversight and coordination of activities on the ground such as upcoming events, planning joint operations and monitoring key projects.

Strategic Priority 5

Hate Crime and Community Tension Monitoring

Welsh Government and partners in the Swansea Council area tackle hate crimes and incidents in respect of the protected characteristics under the **Equality Act 2010**. These include disability, race, religion, sexual orientation and gender reassignment. Age is also a protected characteristic and is incorporated into this area of work. The WG Framework to tackle Hate Crime also takes forward work in relation to mate crime, far right hate and cyber hate and bullying. The Equality Act 2010, created a duty on public organisations when carrying out their functions to advance equality of opportunity and the need to foster good relations between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and people who do not.

Victim Support has been commissioned by the Welsh Government as the Official National Hate Crime Report and Support Centre for Wales.

Strategic Objectives

In line with Welsh Government's National Strategy on tackling Hate Crime, '**WG Tackling Hate Crimes & Incidents – A Framework for Action**'.

Objective 1: PREVENTION

- 1 – Tackling Hate-related Bullying and Promoting Respect
- 2 – Promoting Inclusion and Resilience
- 3 – Delivering Fairness and Equality
- 4 – Delivering Training and Awareness in Service Delivery

Objective 2: SUPPORTING VICTIMS

- 5 – Increasing Reporting of Hate Crimes and Incidents
- 6 – Increasing Support for Victims

Objective 3: IMPROVING THE MULTI-AGENCY RESPONSE

- 7 – Improving Partnership Working
- 8 – Tackling Perpetrators

Measuring Progress

An annual delivery plan, 'Swansea Council Hate Crime Stakeholder Action Plan' has been developed to deliver specific actions from the Strategic Objectives. This is managed and monitored through:-

- Hate Crime Stakeholder Group comprising of the Police, Victim Support, Swansea University and Swansea Council, and
- Safer Swansea Partnership Steering Group.

Related Strategies and Partnerships

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 puts a Well-being duty on specified public bodies to act jointly and establish statutory Public Service Boards (PSBs) for each local authority area in Wales.

Future work and priorities of the Safer Swansea Partnership need to link into the development of Local Well-being plans currently being developed.

Wider links and interdependencies:

- Community Cohesion (Regional and Local)
- Channel Partnership (Local)
- Prevent (Local)
- Contest (Regional)
- Asylum Seekers and Refugee/Migration (Local)
- Western Bay Safeguarding Boards (Regional)
- Public Protection Executive Board (Local)
- Children & Young People Partnership Board (Local)

Funding Arrangements

The level of funding via the Police and Crime Commissioners Office to the Safer Swansea Partnership has remained the same for a number of years. This funding is utilised across the partnership to meet the strategic objectives identified by the Partnership, aligning to the priorities outlined by the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Reporting Arrangements

To measure success, Safer Swansea will draw on qualitative and quantitative data from a number of sources, including evaluation of projects and customer feedback. The Safer Swansea Partnership Steering Group will monitor progress and performance against each of the strategic priorities through the work programme.

A report on progress will be compiled on an annual basis.

Governance Arrangements

Interdependencies and groups that will feed into the Safer Swansea Partnership are outlined in the governance structure chart below.

SAFER SWANSEA PARTNERSHIP GOVERNANCE

