



# **Safer Swansea Community Safety Partnership**

**Annual Review 2022**

# Contents

Foreword..... 2

Safer Swansea Partnership ..... 3

Priority 1 - Violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence ..... 3

Priority 2 – Substance Misuse ..... 6

Priority 3 – Stronger Communities..... 8

Priority 4 – Evening and Night time Economy ..... 10

Priority 5 – Hate Crime and Community Tension Monitoring ..... 18

Next Steps ..... 25

## Foreword

The Safer Swansea Community Safety Partnership Annual Report outlines how local agencies have worked together to make Swansea a safer, more cohesive and confident place to live, work and visit and reduce the fear of crime during 2022.

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 placed a joint responsibility upon specific agencies and other partners within the community to develop and implement strategies to protect their communities from crime and help people feel safe.

Throughout the year partners have worked together to deliver successful projects and initiatives against the identified priorities

Many of these are aimed at raising awareness, education and prevention as we feel these add value to the work delivered by local agencies on a daily basis.

We are proud of the achievements the Partnership has made and look forward to another successful year.

This is the first annual report for the Safer Swansea Community Safety Partnership. The report provides an overview of the activities and achievements in 2022.

Future annual reports will provide further information, including more detail in terms of impact and outcomes of the work. This will be based against a set of new priorities and a revised strategy which is in development for launch in 2023.

# Safer Swansea Partnership

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

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

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.

Written reports are submitted and monitored quarterly at the Safer Swansea Steering group meetings on the following key priorities:

- Priority 1 - Violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence
- Priority 2 - Substance Misuse
- Priority 3 - Stronger Communities
- Priority 4 – Evening and Night time Economy
- Priority 5 – Hate Crime and Community Tension Monitoring

As part of the governance arrangements, the Safer Swansea Partnership will provide an annual statement highlighting work undertaken throughout the year.

## Priority 1 - Violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence

Swansea councils' VAWDASV Strategy is being revised in line with the new National VAWDASV Strategy 22-26.

Swansea VAWDASV Leadership group, core partners and service users attended two workshops to scope priorities and develop a robust and realistic strategy.

The first draft will be shared at the next VAWDASV Leadership Group in January 23 and shared with members to consider and comment on. The final version will be completed and published in May 23.

There has been a review of the MARAC process where consultation with partners took place and a report presented to VAWDASV Leadership Group with findings and recommendations. The Operating Protocol and ISP were revised and a Manta- IT system was purchased to streamline the MARAC process. There has been a delay in implementation due to IT requirements however; this should be operational in Jan- March 2023.

Drive will be launching in HMP Swansea in January 23 with one case manager. As a result, we will have an additional part time Drive IVDA to support victims across the region and uplift the existing Drive service. Ensuring that victim's safety is a priority preventing further abuse and harassment.

A Sexual Exploitation pathways has been drafted in partnership between Child and Family services and Swansea Women's Aid for those at transition age to be safeguarded and referred to appropriate support/safeguarding forum i.e. SWOT. A Task & Finish Group meet in Q1 to review the Exploitation protocol to ensure it includes people exploited by the sex industry. This pathway, once approved will be piloted and become part of that process.

A Regional 'Heads Up' awareness raising campaign for the hair & beauty industry was rolled out the beginning of the year, including two information sessions delivered by Welsh Women's Aid, targeted at employees and salon owners. This was accompanied by resources delivered to salons and mobile hairdressers to raise awareness and enable staff to identify abuse and signpost clients to support. The campaign was very well received on social media and we are currently arranging for a second round of this campaign to be delivered.

Whole School Approach in Education- each member of staff in schools and education has access to VAWDASV online training. Senior members of staff will undertake Group 2 Ask and Act, Train the Trainer and Group 3. The Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) programme has been implemented to raise awareness around VAWDASV. The priority of RSE will be to focus on relationships and identity, sexual health and wellbeing, empowerment, safety and respect.

National Training Framework – 1,225 staff have completed the Group 1 VAWDASV online training. Ask and Act Group 2 training had been delivered to over 60 staff and 7 for Group 3. There are a further 19 sessions planned until March 23 so we should see these numbers increase substantially.

The demand for the IDVA service has reached unprecedented referrals this year. We have had received over 1,300 referrals from April - Nov -22.

This is an increase of 30% from last year where we received 1,000 in April - Nov 21 We are now averaging over 150 PPNs/ external referrals monthly consequently there is increased pressure on the IDVA service and our specialist partner agencies.

The Safe Link Evidence Site launched in September 22 and has proved very successful, there has been positive results with 28 guilty plea/verdicts since April 22. Feedback from victims has been positive, many stating that they would not have attend court if they could not have given their evidence from the Safe Link Site.

Consequently, safeguarding victims with restraining orders and perpetrators being held accountable with custodial sentences and requirements.



White Ribbon Day campaign was very successful. Swansea Council worked in partnership with Swansea University to raise awareness to end Violence against Women's and Girls.

A banner and materials were shared with over 40 Sports teams in the Swansea University and members dedicated a pledge. There was a promotional stand in the lobby of the Guildhall raising awareness and asking for pledges from men and a large

bilingual digital advertising screen was displayed in Swansea quadrant bus station. The Guildhall was lit up in purple and white to promote the day.

In partnership with Swansea Mosque the Friday Prayer Sermon focused on raising awareness of domestic violence in the Muslim community with the message that these behaviours are not condoned within the Islamic faith.

## Priority 2 – Substance Misuse

West Glamorgan Substance Misuse Area Planning Board governs this area of work which feeds into the each local community safety partnership within the region.

One of the key pieces of work agreed in 2022 was the establishment of a Western Bay Substance Use Truth Commission which will be a focus of work in coming years and is seen as a positive development which enabled access to expert advice during this period of transformational change.

The Strategic Evaluation of Prescribing Services (StEPS) report was presented to the Commissioning, Finance and Performance Sub Group. Members were supportive of the recommendations and have agreed in principle to progress with the new model and the APB Support Team doing the necessary work to start to implement the recommendations.

A review of substance use services for Children, Young People and Families has started and a Steering Group established. This is made up of key statutory partners, from the two Local Authorities, the Health Board and Criminal Justice. The Steering Group will map out current provision, demands and gaps.

The annual deaths related to drug poisonings in England and Wales: 2021 registrations was published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) on the 3rd of August 2022. Regionally Western Bay (Swansea and Neath Port Talbot) recorded 41 deaths, an overall decrease compared to the 45 registered deaths in 2020. Swansea registered 28 deaths in 2021, an overall decrease on the registrations in 2020 (34). Neath Port Talbot recorded 13 registrations in 2021, a slight increase on the previous year (11). Swansea still has the highest registrations of any other local authority in Wales but a notable pattern across Wales was the proportional increases seen in other local authorities.

A new first point of contact service (FPOC) for entry into substance use services has been established and was launched on 4th April 2022. There is now a Freephone number in NPT to access services along with access via drop-in at Adferiad buildings, via the Newid Website, social media and via email. This replaces the old AADAS single point of access service

The First Point of Contact (FPOC) service has been operating for 8 months and seems to be going well in terms of making it easier for people to access the support that they need with their own, or someone else's, substance use (and

related) issues. This is still a relatively new service and we would like to learn from what is working well, or not so well, so that we can make improvements, if needed.

There are increasing numbers of people presenting to services with issues relating to alcohol. APB will be taking a closer look at services for this target group, once there is a better understanding of how the recommendations from StEPS will help to release capacity within those services that can meet the needs of this group

The Harm Reduction Sub Group Annual Report 21-22 was circulated with the agenda and an increase to the number of drug related deaths in West Glamorgan was noted in 2021/22 compared to 2019/20 and 2020/21. The report included 64 potential drug related deaths, and 32 had been confirmed by the coroner as drug related, with the remaining 32 awaiting inquest by the Coroner. There was some discussion around the drivers for the increase, and members agreed that the annual report and the recommendations are a standing item for discussion at the Serious Incident Review Group meetings.

A Steering Group set-up by the APB to oversee the Strategic Evaluation Prescribing Services presented recommendations to the APB which included the development of a new model, to consist of a rapid access service for everyone to be able to get a prescription as quickly as possible. Members endorsed the recommendations, to initially run a consultation exercise to finalise the proposed model, and to roll-out the new model as a pilot following the period of consultation.

The final Governance and Risk Sharing agreement has been completed, however it was highlighted that some of the terminology in the risk sharing agreement prevented probation from signing the agreement and that a potential change to the narrative to accommodate this position would be flagged at the joint PSB meeting.

## Priority 3 – Stronger Communities

This section focuses on areas of work in Community Safety and Community Cohesion.

Local authority community safety officer continues the on-going management of 30 'hot spot' cameras across the City & County of Swansea.

Partnership officers continue to support weekly city centre student drop in sessions available at the three main City Centre student accommodation sites to answer any queries and concerns students may have.

Student 'Freshers' safety campaign and design of student safety booklet published and available at the accommodation sites and Help Point. This also linked into responsible drinking and behaviour messages advertised throughout the football World Cup and Christmas periods.

Safer Swansea Christmas Partnership engagement chalet opened on Oxford Street from 28<sup>th</sup> November to 16<sup>th</sup> December. Again well attended and supported by Partners providing engagement opportunities with the general public.

Supported the 'Heads Up' Domestic Violence campaign and awareness packs were distributed to barbers and hairdressers throughout Swansea.

The Community Integration & Partnership team organised 16 Safer Swansea Community Engagement events across Swansea during the summer/autumn period of 2022. These were well attended and supported by Partners and crime and well being surveys were completed on a voluntary basis by those who attended the events.

- **Op BANG**

Multi-Agency coordination of Op BANG (Be a Nice Guy) on the lead up to and throughout Bonfire and Halloween periods. Collaboration with SWP and Local waste and environmental teams.

- **Swansea Rural Partnership Planning**

Working with Swansea County Council, NRW and the local community is seen as the most beneficial way of reducing the impact of any future

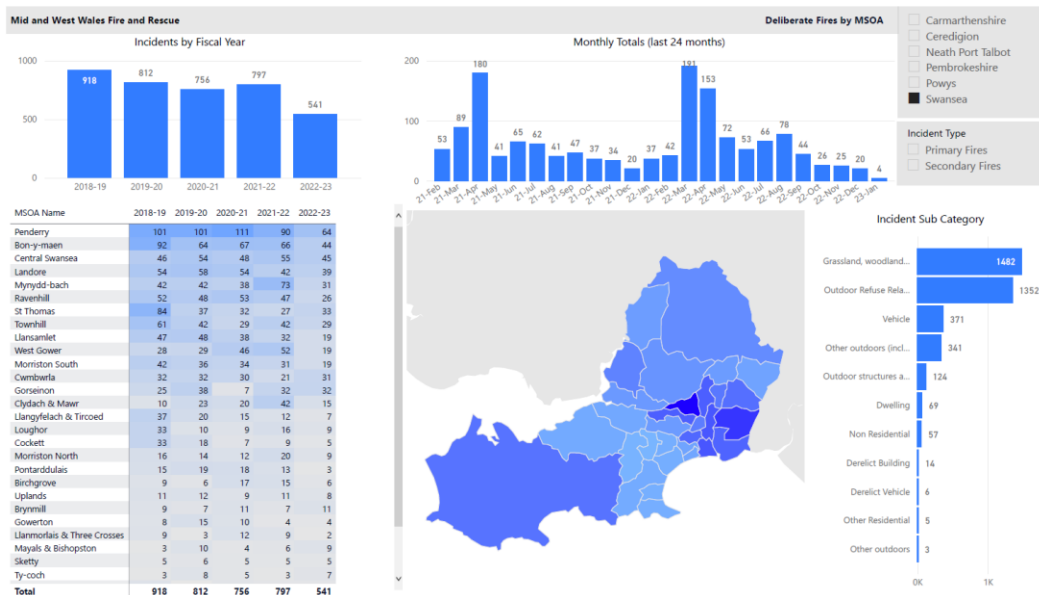


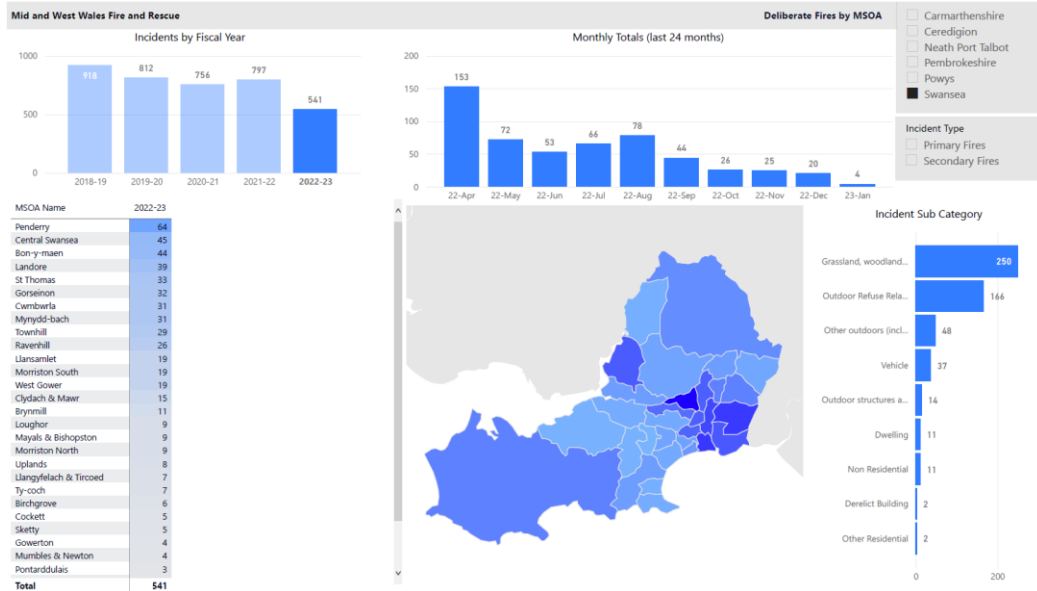
vegetation fires on this site, the surrounding landscape, and the environment.

- **Derelict Buildings**

A frequent intervention facilitated by the Service Arson Advisors is working with local authorities to identify, risk assess and secure derelict and unused buildings. This is primarily to reduce the potential for fire and to ensure that firefighters are prepared for any hazards that may be encountered through ‘Arson Alerts’. Work with Swansea Council continues, to share information to identify buildings at risk and establish ownership.

- **Deliberate Fires Data (Swansea)**





• **Safe Havens**

To support the nationwide campaign to protect those feeling threatened, intimidated or at risk, MAWWFRS has made all our Fire and Rescue Stations designated ‘Safe Havens’, where any member of the public – including children and young people – can go if they feel unsafe in any situation. They will also provide individuals with the opportunity to report hate crime and/or domestic violence.

Mae'r Orsaf hon yn  
**HAFAN DDIOGEL**

Gall unrhyw aelod o'r cyhoedd  
 Gan gynnwys plant a phobl ifanc  
 ddod yma os ydyn nhw'n teimlo'n annogel mewn unrhyw sefyllfa.

Os yw'r criwiau allan a bod angen help  
 arnoch ar unwaith, ffoniwch **999**  
 Rydym bob amser yn agored ac rydym bob amser yma i chi.

This station is a designated  
**SAFE HAVEN**  
 Any member of the public  
 Including children and young people  
 can come here if they feel unsafe in any situation.  
 If crews are out and you need  
 immediate help, please ring **999**  
 We're always open and we're always here for you.

The City Centre Public Space Protection Order went live in December 2021 which began with a 3 month Engagement and Education phase followed by the Enforcement phase. This included Rangers engaging with individuals and explaining the PSPO and its restrictions. They also signposted to support services where appropriate. Education letters were also sent out providing further information.

Since the launch of the enforcement phase in April 2022 there have been in excess of 500 engagements which have resulted in 117 warnings being issued relating to begging, alcohol, public order, drugs and multiple breaches.

10 arrests have been made, 2 Fixed Penalty Notices have been issued and 17 referrals made to the SV MARAC

Street Vulnerability MARAC has supported 23 individuals who are begging, homeless and/or have issues with substance use. Some however, are in breach of the City PSPO.

- **Operation Dawns Glow**

In 2022, Fire and Rescue Services across Wales dealt with 3267 grass fires. Overall, these have increased by 1,246 compared with the previous year, an increase of 62%.

Current research models via Swansea University suggest that weather conducive to ignition and spread of fires are becoming more common in Wales. Predicted warmer, wetter winters and the resulting longer growing season will see more vegetation. Frequent, longer lasting heatwaves will also lead to drier vegetation and more fuel available to burn across Wales. Additionally, climate driven vegetation shifts predicts that we could see an increase in woody fuels at the expense of grassy fields. It's also predicted that Wales could see a 30% increase in fuel loads. The previous three years have seen the largest number of fires and burned area over the past 10 years.

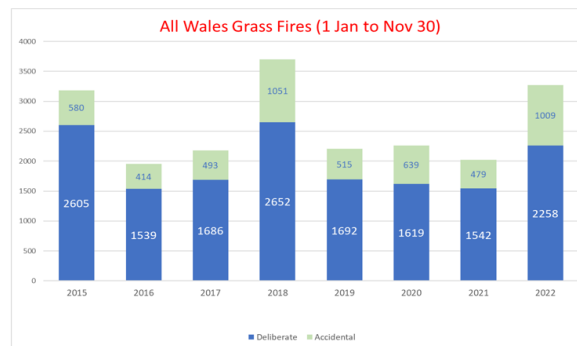
Much of the Dawns Glow work in Swansea will be around driving cultural change around the perception of wildfires – This means more collaborative work in highlighting wildfire impact – financial, environmental, etc. as well as providing opportunities for communities to take ownership of green space and promote wellbeing through developing space for recreation etc

The Service intend to use burning as a vegetation management tool moving forward – This is designed to improve awareness of coordinated, controlled burning as a valuable natural factor balanced against the impact of uncontrolled use of fire.

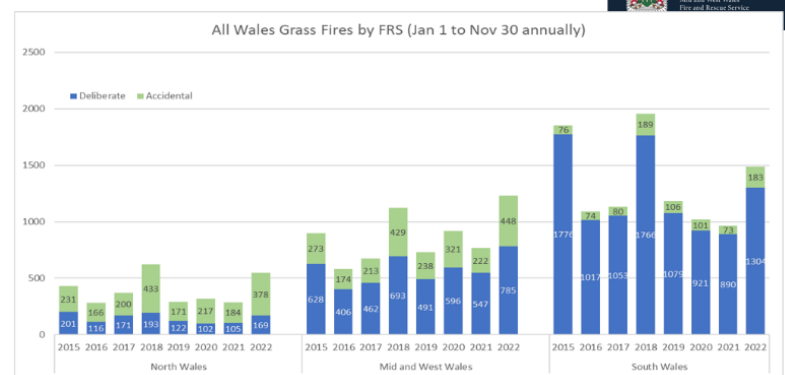
Annual Grass Fires since 2015 (Jan to Nov 30)

Deliberate grass fire up from 1542 to 2258 (46%) 2021 compared with 2022

Overall the number of Grass fires have increased by 1,246 an increase of 62% to 3267



Annual Grass Fires since 2015 (Jan to Nov 30)



Fire break cutting will be accelerated with the successful Welsh Government grant application for the purchase of an i-cut (remote flail) machine. Plans are now in place to create firebreaks using the machine within the Gower and other Swansea areas for 2023 coordinated with the local authority, NRW and commoners/graziers' groups.

Unfortunately, the MWWFR Service's bid for £45k funding via NRW's 'Resilient Communities' grant was unsuccessful. Bids were submitted for 70x 'NoFence' Technology (livestock) collars and extensive firebreak cutting within the Swansea area. Cutting arrangement will still be implemented collaboratively with existing partners, albeit to a lesser scale than planned.

- **Grass Fire Theatre in Education production / Dawns Glaw.**

In collaboration with theatre in education production team "Bollo", the Service funded (via WG Grant) and organised educational delivery to promote our key environmental / grass fire messages to children living in areas of concern. Production commenced in April 2022; currently 19 primary schools visits were delivered with positive results received via feedback.

**Number of Students delivered to = 1,428**

**Number of Schools attended = 19**

**5 Star Scoring for *How relevant did you feel the subject matter was:* 96%**

**5 Star Scoring for *How easy to understand do you feel the information given was:* 87%**

**5 Star Scoring for *How engaging was the show content:* 87%**

**5 Star Scoring for *How much impact do you feel the sessions will have on the pupil's future behaviour:* 74%**

**5 Star Scoring for *How engaging were the presenters:* 91%**

**5 Star Scoring for *How easy was the booking process:* 74%**

Targeted Catchment areas included: Afan Valley, Severn Sisters, Ystradgynlais, Sennybridge, Llanbister, Tregaron, Lampeter, Pencader, Glanamman/Tairgwaith, Trallwn, Nelston (Cefn Bryn Mair Gower), Kilvey Hill area, Clase, Penlan, Townhill, Pontybrenin (Garngoch common)

The objective of this project was to provide a curriculum linked, audience appropriate and engaging pantomime which educates pupils about the Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue Service's annual campaign to prevent deliberate grass fires, incorporating MAWWFRS character Sbarc.

- Operation Dawns Glaw priorities moving forward

## Safer Swansea

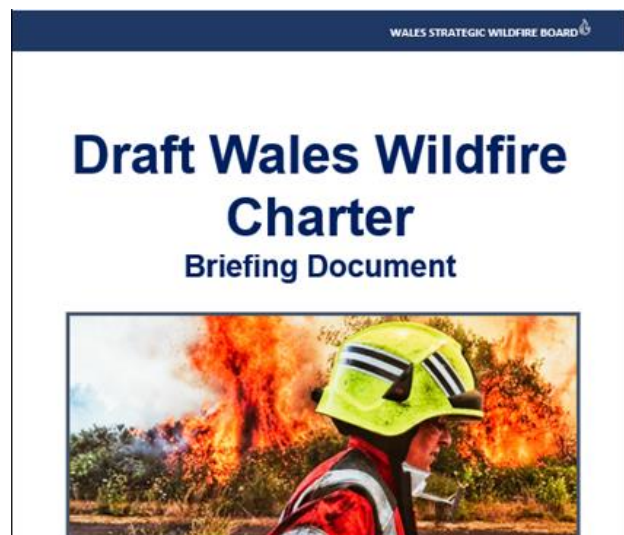
- Supporting climate change mitigation and adaptation through ecosystem approaches and learning from others e.g., academia and organisational research.
- Support sustainable grazing, landscape access development, community ownership programmes for areas vulnerable to wildfire.
- Green space enhancement supporting recreation and wellbeing – combination of wildfire prevention and public right of way.
- Rural / Urban interface – expansion, housing development (approx. 20k in next 5 years – new and affordable in Wales) - influence of wildfire threat.
- Support the development of multi-functional localised rural groups that contribute to an All-Wales map and toolkit.
- Mapping of fire risk and prevention locations also identifying grazing, protected species, access, and heritage sites etc.



Wildfire Risk Mapping Example

•Transition from Wales Arson Reduction Strategy to Wales Wildfire Charter (currently under consultation). The priority areas will be:

1. Partnership – To bring together Emergency Services, Public and Private Organisations, Landowners and Land Users to manage and develop our landscape. Environmental & Community Resilience – To protect wildlife, forestry, and livelihoods, improve wellbeing, health, and amenity, facilitate sustainable food production, and create sense of place and community ownership.



2. Protection – To implement a diverse range of management techniques to reduce the impact of wildfire in the Welsh landscape and on our communities.

### **Engagement and awareness raising**

Delivered a Positive Messages Project, which aimed to combat the increase in far-right graffiti and stickering in Swansea. Positive counter-narrative messages were placed in areas of heavy footfall across Swansea and were designed to be uplifting and create unity and engagement. They were displayed on digital screens in bus stations and shelters, as well as on the side of vehicles.

### **Training and capacity building**

- 6 sessions arranged on Far-Right Extremism & Counter narrative training, delivered by Small Steps across the region between Feb – March 2022.
- 6 sessions on Prevent Awareness were arranged and attended by Council frontline staff from September to November 2022.
- 3 Prevent Awareness sessions were arranged for Primary schools, at the Headteachers request, and delivered by a Home Office Intervention Provider.

### **Telegram Training**

The Cohesion teams across Western Bay and Carmarthenshire recently completed training on the use of the Telegram App, delivered by the Head of Criminology at Swansea University. Telegram can now be safely used by officers for tension monitoring purposes, specifically for Far-Right group activity across the region. As a result of this training, the Cohesion Team will be establishing a Cohesion Tension Monitoring/Information Sharing Teams Group, in partnership with Swansea University and academics from nearby regions.

### **Swansea Art in the City**

This is a project aimed at young people and managed by Swansea Community Engagement Coordinator.

The link below contains what happened at the Oxford Street site and some of the key points that were raised in conversation, direct quotes from the participants, and some of the plans for the future of the Art in The City project <https://create.piktochart.com/output/d79f3f6a1a30-session-review>

Continued partnership with Fresh Creative Co, Victim Support, Greenhill Parade Committee and community members – facilitated discussions and art workshops that result in murals for the Community Units and surrounding locality that aim to counter hateful narratives

Swansea Community Cohesion Unsung Heroes Awards took place on Friday 25th March at Brangwyn Hall, Swansea. Five partners involved: Swansea Council, BMHS, NHS Health Board, SCVS, and Swansea University. Over 109 nominations were received. The judging panel wanted to give recognition to all nominees, so awarded over 80 certificates and 34 trophies.

### **Interfaith Week**

An online photo competition took place for Interfaith Week, on the theme of ‘A place where you feel the most connected to your faith’. Winners of the competition were announced during the Interfaith Forum celebratory event and via social media, with a re-post of the top 4 photo submissions.

### **Workshop on the Ukrainian Scheme**

The Regional Community Cohesion Coordinator is currently working with partners such as Settled Organisation on delivering an online information session for staff and key partners on the rights of Ukrainians, advice for Hosts and access to specific external services.

In March, Swansea was active in supporting the Ukrainian Sponsor Schemes which established a mechanism for coordinating the support internally and with other statutory partners and the third sector

### **Online Hate Training**

The Community Cohesion Team have arranged training around online hate and creating safe spaces online for online group administrators. Training will be delivered by Victim Support and include guidance on establishing community guidelines, terms of reference, and how to identify and safely report hateful language.

## Priority 4 – Evening and Night time Economy

### **Purple Flag**

The successful annual renewal of Swansea's 14-year Purple Flag was attained in Jan 2022.

The assessors report highlighted how the partnership remains strong and committed. Areas of development however include conducting research to ascertain current perceptions of the ENTE and the formation of an ENTE Strategy setting out a clear and long-term vision for the sector.

Representations regarding this have recently been made to Swansea University's Business Management faculty about the possibility of engaging post graduate students to support this work.

Opportunities to raise awareness of Swansea's Purple Flag status have also been highlighted.

### **Help Point and Vulnerability**

Support was secured to extend the opening of the Help Point as a trial to include Friday evenings. Unfortunately, due to the availability of St John's Ambulance resources this arrangement has since been curtailed until further notice. The Help Point continues to be run with the support of the PCCO, SWP and St John's ambulance on Saturday and Wednesday evenings.

This continues to be well used with plans to open on key dates such as Freshers and upcoming sporting events. Fridays however remain non-operational due to the capacity of St John's Ambulance personnel.

The ambulance allocated to the facility is being regularly called off to attend to medical emergencies in the area which can impact the service

Several practical issues have been resolved and new radios have been issued which have facilitated the recommissioning of the Street Pastors which is pending (date TBC). This is however likely to be limited to two Fridays per month due to a shortage of volunteers.

With external funding vulnerability training is in the process of being delivered to ENTE venues as a precursor to establishing them as designated Safe Spaces as part of a national initiative.



Incidents of UK spiking which attracted negative publicity saw a local trend emerge in Swansea which was at its height during October and November 2021. Proactive measures by ENTE partners included assurance and awareness raising among key groups and the distribution of posters and kits to venues to be able to conduct immediate testing have seen reports of spiking dramatically reduce with most cases being due to self-intoxication. The partnership remains vigilant to this issue and processes are in place in the event of a reoccurrence.

### **City Centre Rangers**

From 1 April 2022, ENTE patrols have been undertaken by the Rangers on key evenings (i.e. Wed, Fri, Sat & Bank Holiday Sun) up until 11pm.

This is enabling activities to be coordinated across day and night economies and for the PSPO to be extended into the evening which is pending.

ASB across the City Centre and during both its day and night-time economies is being addressed.

Key issues highlighted for the evening are youth annoyance in and around the Bus Station and Arena Coastal Park. For the latter, tenants also report issues with rough sleepers and the RSIT team and SV MARAC will look to support individuals referred due to vulnerability.

Various actions have been taken to help tackle these issues in partnership with the Council services including the Youth Service, Housing, RSIT and the SV MARAC and South Wales Police.

### **Wind Street Operations**

A new Wind Street Operators Group has recently been formed to translate the Wind Street development works into realistic operating practices particularly in relation to the outdoor pavement café areas and to create a Wind Street Charter to raise standards and improve continuity.

# Priority 5 – Hate Crime and Community Tension Monitoring

## Hate Crime and Community Tension Monitoring

From a Hate crime perspective, we have seen a relatively steady period in reporting. There is nothing to suggest any outlier activity or trends that are not linked to seasonal issues that we have experienced before. That said we have seen a general slight increase in the reporting of hate-crime with the most significant area being the Racial Hate Crime category. The majority of the remaining Hate Crime categories saw a slight decrease in reported offences in comparison to the previous year within the Swansea area. Racial Hate Crime continues to be the prevalent indicator within Swansea however there is no necessary pattern or ethnic area which is targeted.

That said there have been some critical on-going local issues that we have experienced together with other areas of concern which are linked to international events. These have facilitated residual plans and strategies to be put in place to pre-empt community cohesion issues.

Of note there have been several critical incidents that have impacted on local communities. The cumulative impact of these incidents has been at the forefront of our engagement activity and the following areas continue to be in focus with respect to prevalent local issues in terms of either cohesion, vulnerability and/ or quality of life issues.

- The cumulative impact of a number of critical incidents experienced by the BCU and the related community impact.
- The prevalence of drug related deaths.
- The potential for further protest and some far right activity aligning to anti-immigration and displaced persons rhetoric within social media.
- Our preventative activity and response to Violence Against Women and Girls with particular reference to sexual offences and drink spiking.
- The conclusion of Operation Marano and the learning which will continue to be implemented for the BCU.
- Recent incidents of disorder involving Travelling communities.
- The impact of Displaced Persons from Ukraine and sponsorship.
- Swansea City Centre and the Night-Time Economy.
- The impact of the Cost-of-Living crisis.

- The proposal to locate a Women's Centre in Cockett.

The combination above of a sustained period of demand within the BCU has seen a number of abstractions to support and manage major incidents. Resilience at this time has been stretched with critical incidents such as the large-scale violent disorder involving feuding travellers. This has been subject of divisional and regional focus, to manage the criminal investigation and wider safeguarding. There have now been four Murder investigations instigated within the BCU, all have been extremely resource intensive.

Of further note is that the CID continue to investigate a number of unexplained / drug related deaths which are resource intensive, these are being managed in conjunction with operation Adder to provide additional resilience to disrupt and dismantle those involved in the supply of controlled drugs.

We are also very much aware of protest and the activities of Extinction Rebellion which have caused challenges for the wider BCU and the force. The protest at Aberpergwm mine that occurred in July saw seven protestors being arrested on site over a two-day period. Community tensions monitoring and engagement and intelligence gathering continues to be in place and we will respond effectively in this regard. It is anticipated that the BCU will continue to have to manage protest and increased events in the coming months within the context of both international events and the cost-of-living crisis.

Specific Incidents that have focused our response include:-

### **Operation Marano – Mayhill Disorder**

The 20th May 2022 saw the first anniversary of the Mayhill disorder. There has been no disorder since this incident however it remains under close review due to the relevant court cases that are now scheduled. It is confirmed that at time of writing the sentencing for Operation Marano will now take place on 19TH December 2022 at Swansea Crown court. At this current juncture 23 are now listed to appear before the judge on that day, with the others attending from prison. Each court appearance has passed without any disorder, with no information or intelligence to suggest that sentencing will be any different however this will be kept under close review. Currently Mayhill and this operation are classed as Low impact with respect to Disorder, Tension and Community Confidence. The learning from both reviews that have taken place is understood and is being embedded.

Following the disorder strong links were built in key locations in the area, one of which being the Phoenix Centre. This is a one stop-shop with activities such as a nursery and all-weather sport pitches. Funding was obtained from the

PCC's office to conduct a community "fun day" event in Mayhill where the local community came together and experienced partnership working. A "Mayhill Fun day" was organised after the disorder to help to bring the community back together, in attendance were 25 different Partnership Agencies, The Lord Mayor, MP, all 3 emergency services, 7 Ward Members and it was attended by over 300 residents. This led onto The Community Integration & Partnership Team at Swansea Council, together with the Safer Swansea Partnership and partner agencies collectively hosting fourteen community engagement events that aimed to maximise community engagement in order to provide opportunities to rebuild relationships, reduce any ongoing or resulting conflict/tension, and start to repair harm collectively

### **Disorder / Operation Hitchin: 05.08.22**

On Friday 5th August 2022 there was a report of large-scale disorder at Morriston Cemetery between a number of different traveller families connected to Llanelli, Gorseinon, Cardiff and London following a planned graveside blessing. So far eight individuals have been charged with Violent Disorder and Possession of Offensive weapons, four of whom have been remanded in custody pending trial. Eight other individuals are still under investigation. Tensions continue to be monitored and intelligence gathered in relation to this incident. Thirteen people have now in total been charged after this violent incident. Community tensions continue to be reviewed in line with the court cases pending.

### **Protest – Extinction Rebellion**

The BCU can be targeted by this group and we are still receiving sporadic reports of potential hostile reconnaissance at Aberpergwm Coal Mine. The mine has been subject of two previous protests in 2022 and we continue to put preventative strategies in place to mitigate this type of protest.

### **Women's Centre – Cockett**

On the 4th October 2022, the Ministry of Justice's proposal to introduce a Women's Rehabilitation Centre at the Cefn Coed Site in Cockett was officially rejected despite the Planning Officer's recommendation to approve the application. This proposal has caused significant high profile community impact in this area and has warranted a high degree of local policing engagement. It is understood that there will be a renewed application in due course from the Ministry of Justice.

### **Russia – Ukraine Conflict Displaced Persons**

A number of hotels are still the provision of temporary accommodation to house displaced persons throughout the BCU. All appropriate sectors are aware

and engagement and patrol strategies in place. An overarching Community Impact Assessment for the BCU has been completed by the Community Safety and Partnerships Department and tracking of the numbers in the hotels is in place through Welsh Government. Operational group in the Local Authority continue to work closely with the CSP to assist community cohesion in relation to Ukraine and DPs. There have been no anti-Russian hate related incidents reported.

### **Community Tension – Response**

The BCU has both pre-empted and responded to community tension matters with tactical interventions like patrol strategies and Community Impact Assessments (CIA). In the mid to longer term with the assistance of both first and third sector the BCU has continued to proactively engage with diverse communities through the wider neighbourhood policing teams.

Every incident which has the potential to impact on community cohesion or the trust and confidence of partners or the police will merit a CIA which is a living document in mitigating any tension which may lead to disorder or community confidence issues. This matrix then informs the force-wide community impact position around disorder, tension and confidence to ensure we do our utmost with partners to maintain safe, resilient and confident communities.

In addition to the weekly Community Tensions assessment produced by Community Safety and reported on by all Neighbourhood Policing Inspectors, the Community Safety department facilitates a weekly Cohesion meeting between Police and Partners to monitor all tensions. In addition to this, we also link into a regional Cohesion meeting with contiguous forces to monitor cross border tensions. We will continue to develop our intelligence gathering, engagement and neighbourhood policing footprint and activity to counter and improve cohesion issues or trends when they occur.

Our area of focus currently is to ensure that community relationships are fully understood with respect to engagement of the youth community. It is apparent here across all of our diverse communities that the youth are significantly less receptive of traditional faith leadership and are actively seeking influence from social media and overseas and this is where further development of our activity is needed. As such wide-ranging opportunities are now being put in place like a Youth forum within the Multicultural Hub in Swansea to consolidate our cohesion work. This is complemented with event-led engagement like bespoke hate crime awareness sessions run throughout the BCU.

## Hate crime – Specifics

- Hate Crimes-reported cases- 010421 to 301122.

Our Hate Crime Team continue to work with Race Council Cymru and Victim Support on improving hate crime awareness in communities and groups in SNPT. There are no specific hate-crime incidents that have caused us concern locally however we continue to monitor communities for the impact of International events, the cost of living crisis, and the rise of the far right.

We continue to seek information and an understanding of the impact of the cost-of-living crisis and the increased cumulative impact of emerging tensions as noted below.

The BCU runs a bi-monthly hate-crime scrutiny panel where all reports of hate crime incidents are tracked from an investigation and victim support point of view to ensure accountability and progress.

Hate Crime	01/04/2021 31/03/2022	-	01/04/2022 30/11/2022	-
Total	547		280	
Sexual Orientation	78		58	
Transphobic	22		13	
Disability	75		34	
Race	382		180	
Religion	16		12	

The above table compares year to date with year ending March 2022. The proportionality and spread of hate-crimes is not an outlier on previous years with (as noted above) Race related being the predominant focus. What is of note however is that we have seen a slight rise in Transphobic incidents being reported however this was due to a real focus of our hate-crime teams in their engagement with these communities to encourage the reporting of these incidents and this can be tracked from when our teams put a focus on this area.

### Hate Crime Awareness Week

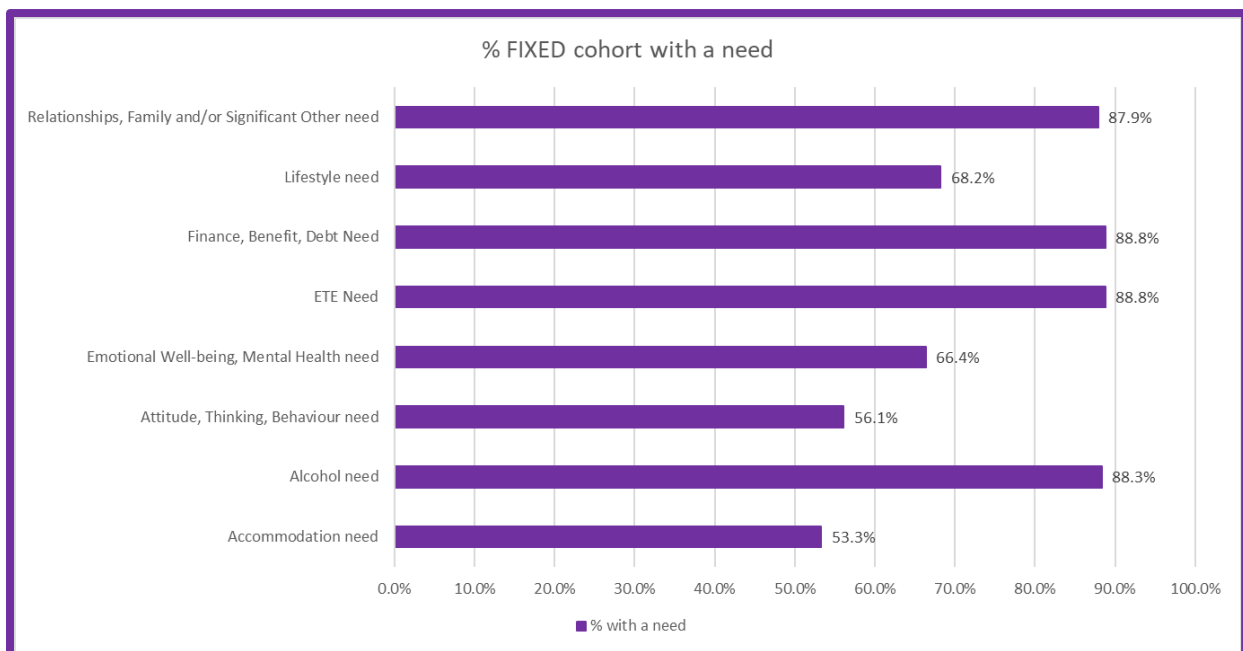
HCAW 'Movie & Munch' night took place at Dyfatty Units, with food and a screening of the film 'Hairspray', with a strong anti-discrimination message and story of the civil rights movement. Victim Support and Community Safety materials were distributed throughout the event. This took place across the

region, with a different film and audience group for each LA. A social media campaign also took place across the week.

### Overview from Probation

The Probation Service in Wales, alongside our key partners, have successfully implemented the Integrated Offender Management Refresh Strategy over 2021/2022. Consequentially the Swansea Neath Port Talbot IOM team have the highest performance currently across Wales in terms of contact (appointments made and kept with services) with Fixed Cohort nominal.

A IOM Performance Dashboard has been created, Below is an analysis of criminogenic needs of IOM nominal across South Wales



Swansea, Neath, Port Talbot Steering Group – September 2022 Key Headlines SNPT had the highest performance data for appointments offered and kept, discussions took place about how partnership work ensures this will continue to trend positively. The steering group were congratulated on this achievement.

Positive discussions took place with partners working with People on Probation around benefits on how collectively improvements could be made in relation to the cost-of-living crisis with it being the joint 1st highest need.

Accommodation was the 3rd highest need, local authority confirmed they would be unable to utilise the CAS-3 funding due to not having sufficient housing and move on options which will in turn impact any additional work IOM

Refresh are undertaking with the IOM Housing Fund. They continue to work on alternative methods of using CAS 3 funding.

### **Women in Criminal Justice System – December 2022 Key Headlines**

**Project Objectives:** To reduce the level of complexity amongst women coming into contact with the CJS by intervening earlier to keep women safe and address the vulnerabilities that can lead to crime; Fewer women being sentenced to short term custody in Wales; Better support women to engage with services in the community by embedding clear referral pathways and individualised, sequenced plans, and by providing interventions delivered by appropriately trained, skilled professionals in a timely manner; Improve women's resettlement into the community following a custodial sentence by ensuring an effective resettlement and rehabilitative pathway; Develop a Welsh evidence-base to better understand the distinct needs and vulnerabilities of women who offend or are at risk of offending

Launched and evaluated Future 4 Women's Pathfinder Whole System Approach and 18-25 Early Intervention Service in South Wales

Secured funding (currently until March 2023) to establish the Pact Visiting Mum Service in HMP Eastwood Park and HMP Styal to help strengthen/maintain family ties amongst Welsh women in Prison

Created a psychologically-led model to support services in taking an evidence-based approach to working with women across Wales

Undertook a gender-focussed pan Wales multi-agency training needs analysis and created a multi-agency gender informed practitioner skills training package.

Created a Pan Wales Women's Partnership Data Report to improve understanding of the profile, needs and complexities of women in or at risk of entering the CJS in Wales.

Delivered a series of engagement events, focused on raising confidence in community-based options for women amongst sentencers and key court decision makers.

### **Joint Intelligence Project – Key Headlines December 2022**

**Project Objective:** To develop a whole system approach to tackling and disrupting SOC in Wales, focusing on the lower level nominals who cause the most chaos, harm and disruption in our communities.

- Focus groups for formal evaluation have taken place throughout the summer period and will continue into the autumn/winter 22
- Presentation on JIP to all MARSOC regional leads and Head of MARSOC completed to promote wider roll out



- Resource review completed – Probation Unit buy in local Probation Officer SPOCs and resource from deployed staff from Approved Premises estate post closure secured

Operational development group planned for 2023

## Next Steps

Partnership work to develop a new strategy for 2023 – 2026. This has commenced and the draft strategy will be discussed at the next Safer Swansea Partnership Steering Group meeting scheduled for 9<sup>th</sup> February.

The draft strategy will go out to Safer Swansea Partners for comment and then out for a wider stakeholder and public consultation.

It is anticipated that the strategy will be ready for 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023.

Action plans for each strategic priority to be developed and reported on quarterly to the Safer Swansea Partnership Steering Group and annually to the Public Service Board forming the main body of the Annual Statement.