



east sussex
safer
communities
partnership

Business Plan

April 2017 – March 2020

Produced by the Safer East Sussex Team

For the East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership

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east sussex safer communities partnership

Foreword

*Successful and innovative partnership
working to ensure we make the most effective
and efficient use of resources in the field of
community safety*

Welcome to our East Sussex Safer Communities Business Plan for 2017/20.

Community Safety remains a key priority within East Sussex. The Safer Communities Partnership, which involves a range of agencies, is the key strategic partnership in overseeing the community safety agenda and is committed to ensuring East Sussex remains a safe place for residents and visitors.

However, it is evident that as we move forwards, the broader threat of exploitation is something that should be considered within the field of community safety. Many of the threats identified through our engagement with a range of individuals, from directors to services users, who work, live and support various people in East Sussex, crossover into the sphere of exploitation of both vulnerable adults and young people, and it is clear that these should therefore not be considered in isolation. There are commonalities between all of these areas, with vulnerable individuals within our communities being targeted and exploited by others for personal, commercial or financial gain.

A common theme throughout our work is vulnerable people with complex needs, which would relate to any one or a combination of substance misuse, accommodation and mental and physical health.

It is therefore essential that we continue to ensure we are making the most efficient and effective use of resources across the East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership. Sustaining existing work within the partnership and developing new and existing relationships with partners is of particular importance to ensure that we are supporting vulnerable individuals within the community and helping them feel safe and confident in their everyday lives.

This is a three year business plan, which is refreshed annually, and sets out how partners will work together to deliver our community safety priorities. It also highlights what we have achieved during the past 12 months and what we are planning to do to improve the services to support local people for the future.

I am once again looking forward to working with all our partners to deliver the community safety priorities. I welcome the new challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. This plan will inevitably develop further as we progress, and the overall aim will be to make East Sussex an even safer place to live, work and visit.



Councillor Bill Bentley
Lead Member for Adult Social Care and
Chair of the East Sussex Safer Communities Board

About this plan

The East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership undertakes a strategic assessment of community safety every three years with an annual refresh in order to select work streams and plan activity for the year ahead.

It takes into account any concerns raised at the recent Safer People Safer Places event; the latest survey results on what residents feel are the biggest community safety priorities in the county; crime trends over the past year; and some of the challenges and changes that we will need to take into consideration when planning activity, including Government legislation and statutory policies.

The Strategic Assessment is written in the context of other work streams identified at both a national and local level as well as those work streams identified by the Office of the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner and Sussex Police. It also shows those areas identified as priorities at a District and Borough level.

Organised crime, modern slavery, scams and fraud were on the agenda as partners from across East Sussex came together for our annual Safer People Safer Places event which was held at the View Hotel, in Eastbourne, on Wednesday, June 20. The event brought together representatives from 42 different services including local councils, the emergency services, health, education and voluntary sectors and the armed forces.

The conference outlined the partnership's priorities for the year ahead – protecting victims of fraud and rogue trading and vulnerable people exploited by crime gangs, and tackling cybercrime and modern slavery.

Although reported crime in East Sussex has fallen substantially, new threats, new challenges and new types of crime have surfaced. There has been a notable shift away from traditional crime types to new emerging threats such as cyber-crime, human trafficking, and child exploitation and this is evident in our priority areas of work. The number of missing children has increased by over 10% in two years and over the next four years it is predicted that demand relating to human trafficking and modern slavery is likely to grow substantially, given 'county lines' drug distribution often involves the criminal exploitation of adults and children.

This plan describes the work streams for the partnership, achievements and what needs to happen next in relation to the findings of the refreshed Strategic Assessment 2018. It also details both County and District and Borough level community safety work streams. The East Sussex Community Safety Partnership priorities are cross cutting and so we will continue to work closely with the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner, Local Safeguarding Children's Board and Safeguarding Adults Board on shared work streams, particularly those that involve working with local communities and partners to keep Sussex safe.



Partnership Business Planning Process 2017/20

STEP ONE

We involved as many people as possible in identifying local threats to community safety

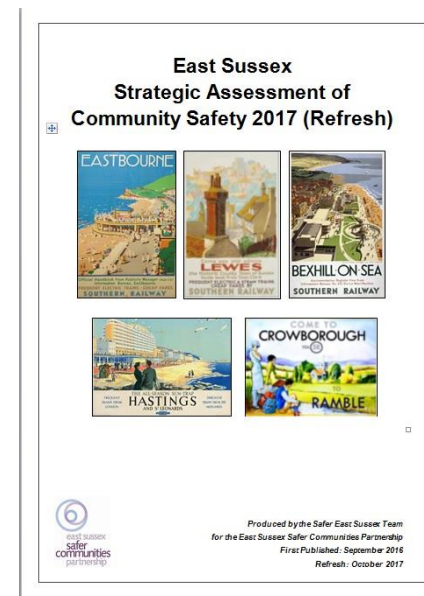


Safer People, Safer Places Annual Engagement Event

Attendees from directors to services users, who work, live and support various people in East Sussex, discussed what they feel the main community concerns are in the county

STEP TWO

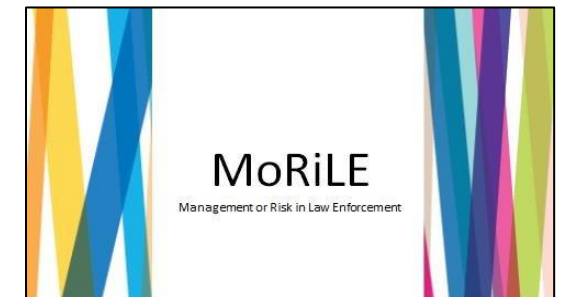
We found out more information about these areas and other areas we know about



East Sussex residents views via the East Sussex Reputation Tracker Survey helps inform our work

STEP THREE

We assessed the risk for these areas



MoRiLE helps us to look at the threat, risk and harm of an issue and the impact it has. It provides an evidence base for selecting partnership priorities

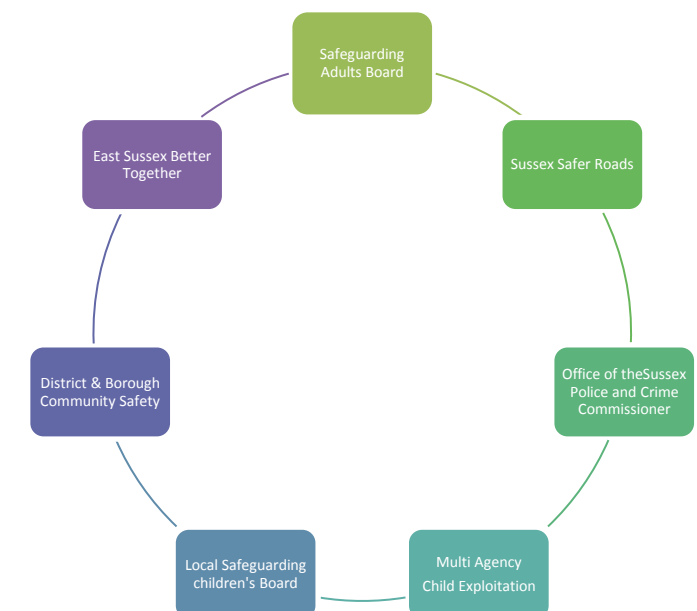
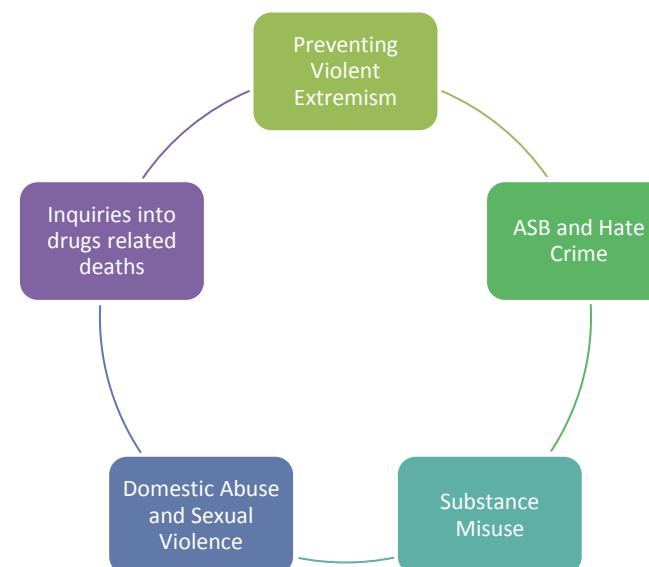
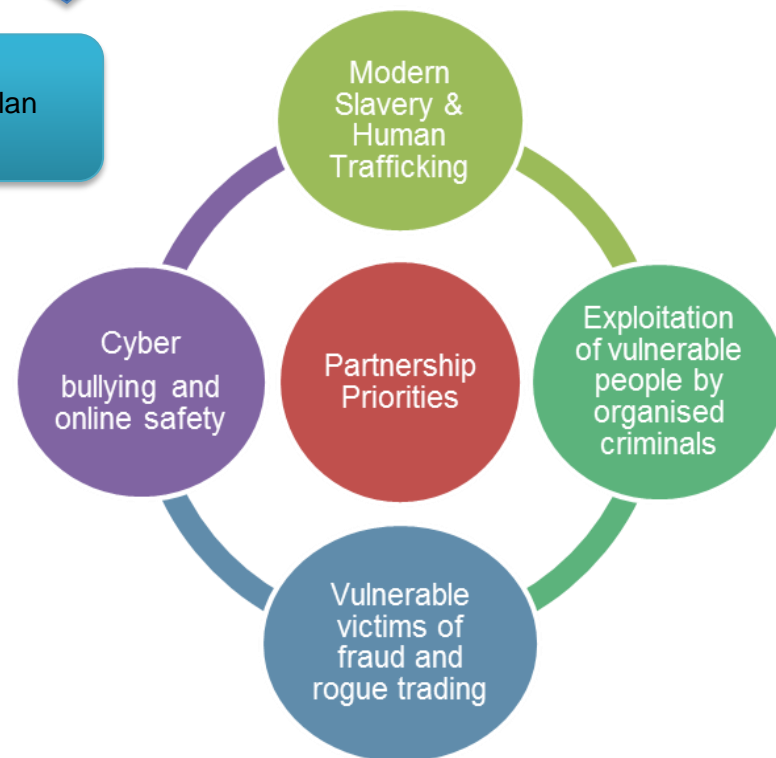


Other work streams undertaken by the Safer Communities Partnership

Other work streams undertaken by the other Partnership structures

STEP Four

We put the Business Plan together



Community Involvement

Central to planning community safety activity in East Sussex is how we engage and listen to the concerns of our communities.

The East Sussex Reputation Tracker Survey, which is carried out annually, gathers information from a cross section of approximately 1,000 residents to find out about their perceptions on key issues. Residents were asked to select **THREE** community safety priorities that they thought was most important for the Partnership to tackle.

A total of 1,003 East Sussex residents were asked to select **THREE** community safety priorities and **ONE** type of Anti-Social Behaviour that they thought was most important for the Partnership to tackle.



The priorities most selected as either a first, second or third choices by respondents were:

- Serious Sexual Offences (46%)
- Anti-social behaviour (33%)
- Burglary (28%)
- Road Safety (27%)

Other priority areas achieving responses from at least 20% of all respondents were Drug and alcohol misuse (24%), Hate crime (23%), Tackling Violent Extremism (21%) and Cyber Crime (20%).

People's Voice is a panel of Sussex residents who have signed up with Sussex Police to complete a series of online surveys throughout 2017.

The top Sussex Police Peoples Voice results on future emerging threats are listed below and reflect much of our current work streams:

- Terrorism/Extremism/Radicalisation
- Cyber Crime/Cyber Bullying/ Online Safety
- Anti-Social behaviour
- Fraud and Rogue Trading

The Public Health Annual Report, **Wellbeing and Resilience in East Sussex** use results from a Community Survey to update and recalculate the Wellbeing and Resilient Measure (WARM).

The survey contains a Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour component. Results from this year's surveys shows a significant decrease in the proportion of residents stating that they feel safe either during the day and just under two thirds feel that crime and anti-social behaviour in their local area has not changed much, however there has been a significant increase in the proportion stating that crime and anti-social behaviour has got worse.



Big Event 2018 - Focus on Safeguarding & Community Safety

At the end of September 2018, the SpeakUp Forum, a countywide network for the voluntary and community sector in East Sussex, hosted a one-day conference event focusing on “*Safeguarding & Community Safety: The Roles of the Voluntary Sector*”.

It was an opportunity for partners from the voluntary and statutory sectors to share information about statutory priorities and procedures, and an opportunity to gather information about key concerns and priorities from the voluntary sector’s perspective. Following the event a number of actions have been identified which will be taken forward over the forthcoming year. They are as follows:

- Continued and focused working with the Safeguarding Adults Board to improve relations with the VCS;
- Raising safeguarding concerns at other strategic partnerships, where they are related to the services/projects being discussed e.g. Personal and Community Resilience Planning and Design Group;
- Coordinating better VCS participation in the Safer East Sussex strategic assessment and planning processes;
- Participation in development of the new Domestic Violence Strategy for the county.

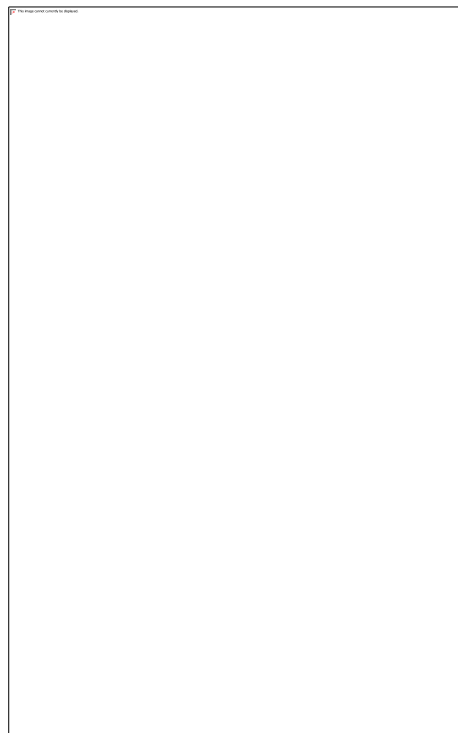
Make Your Mark 2018 Over 12,000 young people in East Sussex voted in the 2018 Make Your Mark national ballot. Their top three priorities will be the focus of the East Sussex Youth Cabinet campaign in the coming year, which include:

- End Knife crime
- Improve mental health support
- Tackle homelessness

The priorities have been shared with partners across the County and further discussed at the 2018 Children and Young People’s Partnership event.

Number of votes cast in East Sussex (total 12,166):

- End Knife Crime – 2,406
- Mental Health – 1,889
- Homelessness – 1,600
- Equal Pay, Equal Work – 1,451
- End Period Poverty – 1,232
- Votes at 16 – 952
- Curriculum 4 Life – 845
- Transport – 838
- Welcome Refugees – 652
- Support Youth Services – 242



Community Action and Involvement

We have developed the active involvement of the wider community in the work the partnership does over the past 12 months. An example of this over the past year has been the **East Sussex Against Scams Partnership** and 105 organisations are now helping to raise awareness about the impact of scams/fraud in the county . Although much of this work has been developed around a partnership of organisations across the County it has also involved many local residents and communities who have taken an active part in running **Friends Against Scams** awareness raising sessions for their staff, family and friends, members and volunteers.

Building on this engagement we are developing a **Communities Against Exploitation Campaign** in partnership with Rother Voluntary Action and Stop the Traffik .This campaign will raise awareness of the priority areas within this business plan directly with our communities and encourage them to report and share concerns where there is currently a limited level of information and intelligence.

The overall aim will be to raise awareness of emerging crime trends and equip community groups with knowledge and current information in order for them to signpost individuals and groups about subjects they are currently not familiar or confident to respond to.

The three overarching objectives of this project will be:

- Increasing knowledge; raising awareness of the latest threats and how to be preventative.
- Empowering individuals to have the ability to respond appropriately.
- Enhancing the ability for local organisations to provide solutions for these issues through partnership working.



Serious and Organised Crime Partnership Priorities



The aim of the Government's Serious and Organised Crime Strategy 2018¹ is to substantially reduce the level of serious and organised crime affecting the UK and its interests. The National Strategic Assessment of Serious and Organised Crime² 2018 identified a number of threat areas which are incorporated into our existing priority areas of work and are highlighted below.

Cyber Crime - Under-reporting of cyber-crime remains a key barrier to our understanding of its true scale and cost. UK cyber-crime continues to rise in scale and complexity. 2017 witnessed a significant expansion in the visibility of cyber-crime and although cyber awareness is developing, there remains a lack of understanding as to what exactly constitutes a cyber-crime and how to protect against it. This long-term challenge will improve with greater cyber education.

Fraud and Other Economic Crime - Fraud is the most commonly experienced crime in the UK and residents are now more likely to be a victim of fraud than any other type of crime. Remote purchase or card not present (CNP) fraud remains the highest fraud loss type. With the introduction of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in May 2018 and subsequent increases in protective measures this should bring about a reduction in instances of data breaches.

Drugs/Criminal Exploitation- Demand for all common drug types remains high in the UK and the use of crack cocaine has increased. Crack cocaine is linked to county lines drugs supply networks and has been identified as a driver for an increase in serious violence. Children are being exploited by gangs, to transport drugs into county markets, to store and distribute them to customers. Young girls are also vulnerable to sexual exploitation. Vulnerable adults are also exploited, particularly through a process referred to as cuckooing where the person has their home partially or entirely taken over to facilitate drug storage or supply.

Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking (MSHT)- The prediction is that in next three to five years it is highly likely that the numbers of global victims of MSHT will gradually increase, and that this will be mirrored in the UK. Modern slavery and human trafficking are underpinned by a number of drivers including victim vulnerabilities, economic imbalances, the demand for cheap labour in destination countries, ease of money movement, and cultural factors conducive to slavery.

Across the priority areas outlined in our Business Plan, it is evident that the broader threat of exploitation is something that is widely linked. Many of the threats identified in Serious and Organised Crime crossover into the sphere of exploitation of both vulnerable adults and young people, and it is clear that these should not be considered in isolation.



¹https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/752850/SOC-2018-web.pdf

²<http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/905-national-strategic-assessment-for-soc-2018/file>

Vulnerable victims of fraud and cyber-enabled crime

Identify vulnerable adults at risk of fraud, rogue trading and cyber-enabled crime to develop targeted preventative support.

Why is it a Priority?

Increasingly fraud, such as mass marketing fraud, internet fraud, doorstep crime and rogue trading, is becoming more complex and deceptive, much of which is targeted at vulnerable and elderly people.

The nature of fraud victimisation is not only financial. The emotional impact is significant and includes guilt, misplaced trust and diminished confidence, resulting in detrimental effects on physical and mental health and increased social isolation. Doorstep crime, and rogue trading in particular, can involve elements of grooming and befriending, pressure and aggression.

Mass marketing mail scams are often targeted at vulnerable or disadvantaged consumers, and causes approximately £5-10 billion of detriment to UK consumers each year. Some chronic victims even struggle to identify themselves as victims, and respond because it helps with feelings of loneliness.



The internet and social media is a growing platform of choice for criminals, and technology is enabling fraudsters to carry out attacks more quickly and employ more complex behaviours to remain undetected. The definition 'cyber-enabled crime' refers to traditional crimes, which can be increased in their scale or reach by use of computers. Two of the most widely published instances of cyber-enabled crime relate to fraud and theft. Action Fraud³ report that 70% of fraud is cyber-enabled which is why it is now included as a partnership priority.

Victims are often, although not exclusively, vulnerable through age. With the ageing population and the documented increase in dementia⁴, there is an increased risk of people falling victim to these types of fraud in East Sussex.

Achievements so far

Locally, we have well established links between East Sussex Trading Standards Service, Sussex Police, the National Trading Standards (NTS) Scams Team, East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service, and Adult Social Care.

In January 2018 we held our first annual 'Scams Networking and Engagement Event' to provide a platform for partners in the voluntary and statutory sectors to showcase their work against scams.

³ <http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/what-is-fraud>

³ Operation Signature: Sussex Police Vulnerable Victims of Fraud Profile, Author: Colin Purslow, Performance Information Unit, Sussex Police

⁴ https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/info/20091/what_we_think/93/demography

This event also incorporated a facilitated forum to test practice, share operational procedures, share research and plan strategies. The event successfully provided opportunities for organisations who would not typically meet to work in partnership in the fight against scams.

**NATIONAL
TRADING
STANDARDS**

Scams Team

The NTS Scams Team works across England and Wales and engages with local authorities and partner agencies to identify and support victims of scams. As part of this, the East Sussex Trading Standards Service team visits scam victims identified by the NTS Scams Team, usually accompanied by an Age UK or Citizens Advice Bureau representative. The NTS Scams Team also runs the **Friends Against Scams** initiative which aims to increase the awareness of scams throughout the UK.



This is supported by the **East Sussex Against Scams Partnership (ESASP)** which is a partnership of organisations - businesses, charities, church groups, clubs, community enterprises, councils, societies, voluntary groups and other partners. Partners are committed to the Charter's three key aims which are:

- Raising awareness and de-stigmatising scams
- Prevention and protection
- Identification and recording

Over 100 partners have signed up to the ESASP Charter and pledged their commitment to taking a stand against scams and the number continues to grow. During the 2018 Citizens Advice national Scams Awareness Month campaign there were over 21 events held in East Sussex (e.g. Friends Against Scams awareness sessions, display stands, talks, literature displays etc) with over 375 people reached directly and many more via social media.

Financial Abuse Strategy guidance has been agreed by the Operational Practice Subgroup of the Safeguarding Adults Board. Members of the group have developed and implemented the SAB Financial Abuse strategy, outlining

approaches in dealing with financial abuse of adults with care and support needs in East Sussex.



Most of the recommendations in the Strategy have now been completed. This includes guidance to identify improvements in responses to adults who are experiencing chronic financial abuse. The guidance will be implemented from 4th February 2019 following a period of promotion within relevant agencies. It will be reviewed in July 2019. Once the evaluation is completed consideration will be given to developing guidance for people who are at high risk of financial abuse who do not have care and support needs.

Over the next 12 months we will...

- Continue to support the implementation of the SAB financial abuse strategy and the development of guidance for people who are at high risk of financial abuse who do not have care and support needs.
- Increase Charter Partners and continue to provide scams / fraud awareness raising activities to existing members.
- Develop resources for people with additional needs to prevent them from becoming victims of fraud, rogue trading and cyber-enabled crime. Share these resources with charter partners to support their inclusive practice.
- Continue to strengthen communications with Charter Partners; sharing key messages, providing electronic bulletins and maximising social media output for Charter Partners to disseminate information more widely through their own channels to reach a wider audience.
- Hold an annual networking and engagement event which will incorporate a facilitated forum to test practice, share operational procedures, share results of surveys and plan strategies.



Cyber Crime

We will continue to focus on activities and initiatives which promote digital resilience to young people in East Sussex.

Why is it a Priority?

Crime as we know has been changing. As we've embraced technology and moved online, it has too, and people are now more likely to be a victim of an online crime than a traditional crime.



The Department for Education published their revised Keeping Children Safe in Education 2018 and introduces a number of notable changes and updates with regards to online safety.

- Abuse definition now includes: Abuse can take place wholly online, or technology may be used to facilitate offline abuse.
- Emotional abuse now includes: may involve serious bullying (including cyberbullying).
- Governing bodies and proprietors should ensure that children are taught about safeguarding, including online safety. Schools should consider this as part of providing a broad and balanced curriculum: Clarifies teaching online safety is not optional.

Cyber bullying is rife on the internet and most young people will experience it or see it at some time. Due to advancements in technology, cyber bullying can happen 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and it can go viral very fast. For many cyber bullying affects their everyday lives and is a constant source of distress and worry. With mobile technology being so freely available it is an ongoing issue and one that is relentless. It has been well documented that cyber bullying has resulted in tragic events including suicide, and self-harm and clearly, more needs to be done in order to protect vulnerable children and adults from online bullying⁵.

Cyber bullying is also part of the much wider issue of exploiting the vulnerabilities of young people, which also includes threats such as grooming and even radicalisation and extremism. Cyberbullying and online safety were areas of concerns highlighted by the young people that attended the Safer People Safer Places event in 2016 and which partners agreed were areas we should continue to focus on.



Achievements so far

- The **East Sussex Stay Safe Directory 2019** has been refreshed and provides a variety of programmes and workshops which are currently being offered by a range of organisations and focus on different strands of community safety, personal safety and online safety.

New partners for 2019 offering support and intervention for schools and colleges include the Education, Support and Behaviour Service and the Regional Serious Organised Crime Unit - **Cyber Crime Unit Prevent Team** who work with young people to identify those who are gifted and talented in the world of cyber, as well as those who are vulnerable or at risk of cyber exploitation and committing cyber-crime. The Cyber Prevent role is a new one, delivering the national Cyber Prevent strategy led by the National Crime Agency.

⁵ <http://www.bullying.co.uk/cyberbullying/>

- Think Protect Connect has now been delivered to nearly 4,000 young people in East Sussex. A large component of these workshops focuses on online safety with the key message of: *what is unacceptable offline should be unacceptable online*. Topical discussions, role play and activities further assist in promoting digital resilience and critical thinking skills in the online world for the young people taking part.

FEEDBACK



The sessions are delivered by the Safer East Sussex Team and feedback continues to be extremely positive from all the schools/colleges who have participated in this programme.

- ***Thanks so much for all of your input. The children have really enjoyed your sessions and got a lot out of them. It has generated much discussion at other times within the year group.*** (Grovelands Primary School)
- ***The workshops were very informative and tackled challenging areas in a very appropriate way. I am so glad my pupils were given the opportunity to take part.*** (Five Ashes Primary School)
- ***We had overwhelming positive feedback to all of your sessions and more importantly the information seems to have stuck with our learners for that year.*** (Sussex Downs College)
- ***Thanks as ever for the session with the boys this afternoon. I really do feel they are getting a lot from them!*** (Hilltop Special School)
- ***Well pitched, informative and thought provoking sessions delivered in a really engaging way by Dave.*** (Seahaven Academy)

Over the next 12 months we will....

- Continue to develop and promote online safety sessions within the Stay Safe Directory and encourage educational establishments to take up these sessions through the PSHE hubs and via Partnership activity.
- Continue to deliver Think Protect Connect which focuses on promoting digital resilience and critical thinking skills in the online world.
- Promote the work and support available of the Cyber Crime Unit Prevent Team to East Sussex Schools and Colleges
- Develop and implement a new Relationships Programme for children and young people designed for Year 6 upwards. These four workshops give young students the chance to discuss Community Safety issues that can impact early on in the development of young people. One of these workshop focuses strongly on relationships with social media.
- East Sussex CSD Standards and Learning Effectiveness Service (SLES) are hosting a performance by Applied Theatre specialists AlterEgo Creative Solutions. The play CLICK has been commissioned by SLES to perform to primary and special Year 6 pupils in 40+ schools across East Sussex in order to give young people the tools and knowledge that they need to keep themselves and their friends safe.



Vulnerable people being exploited and recruited by organised crime groups

We will aim to collaborate with partners and engage in early preventative work in relation to County Lines, organised crime and the exploitation of vulnerable people and increase the awareness of these issues amongst the wider community.

Why is it a Priority?

Vulnerable people continue to be exploited by county lines gangs in East Sussex. Children from urban areas are recruited by gangs to courier drugs and money to county locations.

There has been an increase in awareness of the use of local and urban children to convey drugs into and supply them throughout county lines markets. This poses many risks to young people, not least violence, intimidation, unhygienic and unsafe practices, falling into Class A drug use and in some cases, child sexual exploitation. Class A drug users are also being targeted so that gangs can take over their homes (known as 'cuckooing').



Locally in East Sussex data and intelligence in relation to this area can be limited and often restricted. However, drugs lines between London and Hastings have been evident for a number of years and are believed to account for a considerable percentage of Class A drugs that are supplied into the town.

A number of individuals identified as being part of these drugs lines are affiliated to, or have links to London Gangs. Local intelligence suggests that these groups from London are 'cuckooing' at addresses of vulnerable local people where they base their activities, travelling to and from London via train or hire cars. London Gangs operating in Hastings and Eastbourne have been known to coerce vulnerable young people (both from the local area and from London) to deal drugs for them.

Public awareness has often been limited in relation to this threat area and to some extent professional awareness amongst practitioners who support many vulnerable people within our communities. In East Sussex the numbers of statutory Child Protection Plans for young people are increasing as a response to the Criminal Exploitation agenda. It is positive that universal services have become better able to recognise sexual or drug related harms, following awareness raising initiatives and campaigns.

Referrals to the operational Bronze MACE group (Multi Agency Child Exploitation) have increased from 3-5 new referrals per month to each locality panel, to a new volume of typically 5-10 per panel. There has been a significant increase in the number of high risk children discussed at MACE in the last quarter of 2017/18, which coincides with the wider focus of the group on all forms of child exploitation

We now know that groups from London are 'cuckooing' at addresses of vulnerable local people where they base their activities, travelling to and from London.

Drug dealers exploit the vulnerable and often take over their properties in order to store and deal drugs at the address.



Local estimates in East Sussex identify 60+ properties with many more hidden from partner agencies that can provide enforcement and support, thereby improving the quality of life of victims and residents of neighbouring properties.

Multi-agency cuckooing groups have since been established locally to safeguard victims of cuckooing, to support them and to reduce their vulnerability. In Eastbourne, Lewes and Wealden there have been 27 adults referred to the multi-agency cuckooing meeting since July 2018.

Achievements so far

- Sussex Police established a **monthly multi-agency cuckooing meeting** in 2018 in order to provide a co-ordinated response from local services, such as Social Services, Police, NHS, Fulfilling Lives, and Housing Associations amongst other support agencies for victims of cuckooing.

This multi-agency approach has paved the way for some innovative work to take place in complex circumstances and cases where best practice standards are attained. For example, the arrangement of a multi-agency strategy meeting within 24 hours and working with agencies across counties to secure emergency accommodation for a victim of cuckooing and provide long-term support for mental health and substance misuse issues. The case was a prime example of how agencies worked together to co-ordinate short and longer term measures for the victim to have immediate safety and support options to make healthier choices for the future.

- In partnership with Sussex Police a **County Lines awareness session** for front line professionals was coordinated. A special one-day conference involving more than 50 people heard from Junior Smart of the South London-based St Giles Trust.

Attendees include representatives from the police, local authority children's services, and locally based welfare support services and charities. His presentation helped raise the awareness of professionals who are directly involved in supervising or spending time with children, to be alert to the warning signs and understanding these areas of criminality.

The event proved very popular and feedback received following the event was extremely positive.



- At the end of September, the SpeakUp Forum, a countywide network for the voluntary and community sector in East Sussex, hosted a one-day conference event focusing on **"Safeguarding & Community Safety: The Roles of the Voluntary Sector"**. Presentations from the Safer East Sussex included information on County Lines to 137 people who attended the event, two thirds of whom represented voluntary and community organisations. And a further workshop delivered by Change Grow Live (CGL) highlighted the exploitation of cuckooing with links to Modern Slavery.

- The Safer East Sussex Team and the Youth Safety and Intervention Team of Sussex Police have piloted a new resource '**Against Exploitation**' aimed at providing young people with factual information about gangs/criminal exploitation and tactics on how to avoid them.

Spotting the signs that your friend might be involved with a gang



- Missing from school or poor results
- Going missing for long periods of time or staying out unusually late
- Unexplained amounts of money, mobile phones, credit, clothing, jewellery, tagging or other items and gifts
- Getting involved in fights

The workshops also focus on what real friendships are, why and how criminals persuade or encourage young people to do things they often don't want to get involved in and ways they can say 'No'. They have been delivered in various settings Schools and supported housing establishments. Young people's feedback has included:

- This was helpful and made me understand more about the consequences.
- It was worth it I learned to say no to things I don't want to do.
- This was good because it showed us ways to stay safe.
- From school staff: They said the workshop was really informative and related to real life so was easier to get a sense of what it was like

- Childrens Services East Sussex Standards and Learning Effectiveness Service (SLES) commissioned 20 performances of "County Lines" by Applied Theatre specialists AlterEgo Creative Solutions to support the MACE strategic priorities.

AlterEgo Creative Solutions Ltd is a not-for-profit social enterprise dedicated to using theatre to inform, to educate & to entertain. The play was commissioned by SLES to perform to secondary Year 8+ students in the schools in order to give young people the tools and knowledge that they need to keep themselves and their friends safe.



Independent schools had access to a twilight performance so that they could evaluate the performance and decide whether to commission a production for their students.

In addition, a professionals' performance was held on the 7th February and members of key teams from ES Children's Services, Health and the Police attended. The professionals' performance enabled all agencies to be aware of the messages provided to schools through this play and to participate in a discussion forum and update session about drug trafficking and criminal exploitation in East Sussex.

Over the next 12 months we will...

- Incorporate County Lines and Cuckooing into the Communities Against Exploitation Campaign in order to raise awareness within our Communities through the voluntary and community sectors of how organised crime is operating and how to respond to it.
- Continue to support the MACE and LSCB in raising awareness of child criminal exploitation
- Support the Office of the Sussex Police Crime Commissioner in the promotion and implementation of the Early Intervention Youth Programme in East Sussex which looks to support and prevent young people who are at risk of getting involved in crime and addresses the risk factors which are linked to serious violence.
- In the Silver Multi Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) Group it has been agreed that agencies should be seeking to review with a view to the possible integration of prevention responses delivered within East Sussex County schools, that are associated with child criminal exploitation. This will require partners to adopt a co-ordinated delivery approach.



**SPEAK OUT
AGAINST
CHILD
EXPLOITATION**

**Recognise the signs and
speak out.**

**Contact the Single Point of
Advice
Tel: 01323 464222 or email:
0-19.SPOA@eastsussex.gov.uk**

**Or Sussex Police on 101 or
999 in an emergency**

Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking

We will be continuing to develop the skills and knowledge of this crime type within a network of Single Points of Contact based within our statutory and voluntary workforce, we will also be encouraging the community to learn how to spot the signs of exploitation and how to report it through a range of communication campaigns.

Victims of modern slavery are unable to leave their situation of exploitation, controlled by threats, punishment, violence, coercion and deception. The term Modern Slavery captures a whole range of types of exploitation, many of which occur together. These include but are not limited to:

- Sexual exploitation
- Forced labour
- Domestic servitude
- Criminal exploitation
- Other forms of exploitation: organ removal; forced begging; forced benefit fraud; forced marriage and illegal adoption

As Modern Slavery is a complex crime, with victims and perpetrators moving across local authority boundaries a Pan Sussex Modern Slavery Network has been established which brings together all the organisations across Sussex that are committed towards tackling modern slavery, prosecuting perpetrators and assisting the victims. The purpose of the Network is to co-ordinate activity to prevent duplication and ensure a Sussex wide approach. Membership includes statutory and voluntary sector partners and a multi-agency action plan has been developed.

Why is it a Priority?

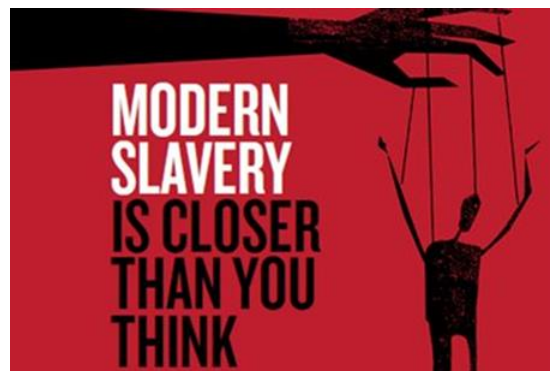
Modern Slavery is a priority for the East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership as one of the areas as high risk due to the severe and long-term impact that it has upon the vulnerable, the high level of public expectation and the need for a multi-agency response to tackling it effectively.

Modern Slavery is a type of abuse within the Care Act 2014 that provides the statutory footing for adult safeguarding responses. The Partnership is working in collaboration with the East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board and Local Safeguarding Children's Board to ensure that information is effectively shared in order to protect vulnerable adults and children from harm.

For Law enforcement agencies, Modern slavery is a Strategic National Priority. The legislation, the response to information and the meaningful investigation is mandatory as set out by Article 4 ECHR (III). Within the Sussex Police Force Strategic Assessment Modern Slavery, Human Trafficking and Organised Immigration crime was assessed as high risk and therefore remains on the Sussex Police Control Strategy to ensure a focus on enhancing understanding and improving the multi-agency response to the issue.

Modern Slavery is sometimes regarded as a hidden crime. The UK annual report on Modern Slavery 2018 provides an overview of modern slavery in the UK and explains how the UK has responded to this threat over the last 12 months. The number of modern slavery crimes recorded by the police in the year to March 2018 recorded 3,337 modern slavery offences, a 49% increase on the previous year.

In 2017, among potential adult victims, the most common reported exploitation type was labour exploitation (44%) followed by sexual exploitation (39%). Among potential child victims, the most common reported exploitation type was also labour exploitation (48%), followed by sexual exploitation (27%). This pattern was broadly similar to 2015 and 2016.



Sussex referral figures for the first 6 months of 2018 show 24 referrals in total by Sussex Police and one by West Sussex County Council. From July 2016 to June 2017, Sussex Police made 55 referrals to the NRM. Of these 9 were from East Sussex (with 13 from Brighton & Hove and 33 from West Sussex).

The Modern Slavery Act 2015 consolidated the current offences relating to trafficking and slavery. Its key areas include:

- Two new civil orders to prevent modern slavery
- An Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner
- Provision for the protection of modern slavery victims.

In addition, the Act introduced a duty on specified public authorities to notify the Secretary of State of any individual encountered who they believe to be a suspected victim of slavery or human trafficking. This involves raising awareness of modern slavery to improve the identification of victims of the crime. The duty applies to all police forces and Local Authorities, The Home Office, the Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority, certain charities and the National Crime Agency. In 2017 almost all reports under the duty to notify were made by the police 1,501 (45%) and the Home Office 1,474 (45%). Other organisations are also encouraged to put forward notifications where they encounter a potential victim of modern slavery who does not want to enter the National Referral Mechanism (the framework for identifying victims of human trafficking or modern slavery and ensuring they receive the appropriate support and the mechanism through which the Modern Slavery Human Trafficking Unit collects data about victims).

Achievements so far...

The **Modern Slavery Network** has successfully established links with National and Regional Networks such as the Human Trafficking Foundation National Modern Slavery Co-ordinators Network, the Police and Crime Commissioner national network on Modern Slavery, and the South East Strategic Partnership for Migration in order to learn more about best practice and to gain a more holistic view of work around modern slavery.

A **multi-agency audit** was conducted by East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) in February 2018 as part of an initiative by the Sussex Modern Slavery Network. The audit group made several recommendations for improvement and development including:

- Improved information about modern slavery for staff and the public at strategic locations including leaflets in other languages.
- Relevant training to be made available to staff in all agencies.

The Safer East Sussex Team, Safeguarding Adults and Local Safeguarding Children's Board, Sussex Police, Local Clinical Commissioning Groups and Stop the Traffik have come together to deliver a truly collaborative approach to the way partners across the County can work together to develop a consistent approach to this crime.

80 frontline professionals attended **training events** in October 2018 to improve their understanding and knowledge around Modern Slavery in order to share this more widely within their own teams and organisations. They heard from local police and partners about local cases,

where to report concerns locally and how referrals can trigger relevant support to potential victims of modern slavery. This new group of **single points of contact** (SPOC's) will be at the forefront of sharing information, intelligence and best practice.

In 2018 Adult Social Care & Health updated the Safeguarding Adults Pathway to ensure that all safeguarding concerns raised regarding Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking are accepted and logged as safeguarding concerns. The response required as a result of these concerns is then assessed on a case by case basis, including discussions with referrers and other relevant agencies to establish who is best placed to discuss support options with suspected victims, and to consider which first responder agency will complete an NRM referral, or MS1 notification, where appropriate.

The Sussex Police Crime Commissioner has provided funding for a **Modern Slavery Manager** to develop the response and sits within the Specialist Crime Directorate. As well as developing the Police response (I.E identification, recognition, escalation, intelligence gathering, recording and investigation). The role also seeks to working with multi agency partners to better understand the complexities and the scale of modern slavery and human trafficking across Sussex and to seek to provide the right level of interventions and service to the victims of this emerging crime.

Over the last year the Modern Slavery Manager has

- Undertaken evaluations of neighbourhood policing projects, intelligence and investigation processes, guidance, training and tactical command.
- Supported the development and delivery of training to multi-agency partners in East Sussex
- Developed and delivered bespoke training to the National Crimestoppers contact centre, the care quality commission, UK Border Force personnel, Immigration detention.
- Trained 18 detectives to have specialist investigator skills for Modern slavery, and over 50 senior detectives, critical incident managers and duty inspectors with the skills to direct safeguarding and investigation activity.
- Worked with several universities in terms of academic analysis of response measures and the South East Regional Strategic Partnership for Migration, looking at the cross-over and vulnerability elements of the asylum and refugee systems.

Locally, Police have been working in Hastings and Rother, and now other parts of the county, to uncover the reality of trafficking in their area and have developed a multi-agency project to identify and deal with modern slavery. **Project Discovery** brings together local police officers, fire officers, King's Church and staff from Hastings and Rother Councils, the DWP, the Gangmasters & Labour Abuse Authority, immigration and local charities, all with the aim of seeing victims of modern slavery rescued and supported, and perpetrators brought to justice.

During 2018 Project Discovery has:

- Conducted over 18 successful operations with outcomes ranging from issuing community protection notices, fining and closing of business premises, re-patronisation of an individual and issuing fire prohibition notices.
- Undertaken 17 NRM applications (which is a referral mechanism for potential victims of modern slavery and ensuring they receive the appropriate support, where victim has given consent)
- Submitted 13 MS1 forms (notification of potential victim of modern slavery to the Home Office, where a potential victim has declined support)

To support the Discovery model, Stop the Traffik received funding for a **Modern Slavery Community Coordinator** whose main purpose is to increase victim identification by:



- Focusing on at risk communities
- Increasing engagement with the voluntary and community sector, faith groups, businesses and other networks
- Running events, campaigns and awareness raising activities.

Over the last year the co-ordinator has:-

- Hosted 3 Non-Government Organisations Modern Slavery Forums. All of the Forums have had different themes, including looking at what support can be offered to victims outside of the NRM process. As a result of these forums there has been an increase in contacts with the co-ordinator and the police.
- Trained over 350 professionals in spotting the signs of Modern Slavery and how to report concerns.
- Attended multi-agency operational days to encourage a victim centred approach.
- Built relationships with local faith groups and hosted a multi-faith forum which began to highlight the roles that these communities can play in addressing modern slavery and human trafficking

In 2018 Hastings Borough Council received £342,203 from the Controlling Migration Fund to support the council's participation in Operation Discovery, a multi-agency project that is tackling Organised Crime, Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery. The project aims to **disrupt illegal activities and identify dangerous and unlicensed HMOs and business premises**. Benefits will include: reducing overcrowded, dangerous housing conditions and associated risks (e.g. fire); educating landlords in their obligations to (all) tenants; disrupting criminal activity; and, increasing confidence that businesses that employ migrants are legitimate.

Over the next 12 months we will...

- Include Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking within the Communities Against Exploitation public campaign. The campaign aims to raise awareness of emerging crime trends and equip communities with further knowledge and information on current issues, signposting to where they can go for further information and support, or how they can report/respond appropriately.
- Utilise and build on the Single Point of Contact network established as a result of the county wide training events held in October with frontline staff and key agencies.
- Continue to support the development of Project Discovery across East Sussex.
- Expand the Modern Slavery Network to include Faith and Business Communities in order to and enable a dialogue between them and the Voluntary and Statutory Sector partners.



Work Streams Identified Through our Other Partnerships

- Preventing Violent Extremism
- Anti-Social Behaviour and Hate Crime
- Drugs and Alcohol
- Domestic Violence & Abuse, Stalking and Rape & Sexual Violence and Abuse
- Reducing Re-Offending
- Armed Forces Community



Preventing Violent Extremism

East Sussex remains a non-priority Prevent area and although the risk here is less than other areas within the UK we remain committed and diligent in upholding and adhering to the requirements of the Prevent Duty.

The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 introduced a number of new duties for local authorities and the Safer East Sussex Team has taken the lead in implementing these duties and ensuring compliance with the legislation on behalf of East Sussex County Council.

The East Sussex Prevent Board assesses the countywide risk of people being drawn into terrorism and continues to coordinate Prevent partnership activity according to section 29 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015.

Prevent forms part of the National Counter Terrorism Strategy (CONTEST) which was reviewed and published in the Spring of 2018.



Think Protect Connect, a digital resilience programme was integrated into the **East Sussex Stay Safe Programme 2018/19**. In 2018 30 schools and organisations participated in this programme which reached over 1,240 young people with 104 sessions being delivered. This resource provides schools and other youth settings with a range of innovative resources to safeguard children and young people from online radicalisation and extremism. Since 2016 nearly 4,000 young people have participated in the programme.

Think Protect Connect (Autism Friendly) is available nationally on the Government website: **educate against hate** and has been independently evaluated by Leicester University and approved for sharing nationally by the Department of Education, The Department of Health and the Home Office.

The resource has also been included in the 2018 Autism Self-Assessment Framework and shows East Sussex County Council's progress towards meeting the requirements of the Autism Act 2009.

educate.against.
hate

HM Government

This website gives parents, teachers and school leaders practical advice on protecting children from ~~extremism and radicalisation.~~

Dovetail is the name of the national process of transferring resources and responsibility for administering the case management (referrals) aspects of Channel from the police to local authorities. Currently there are 9 Local Authority Dovetail sites operational, the North West region will be going live in January 2019. The South East region is expected to take place sometime in 2020. This will introduce new posts and joint coordination of referrals across areas the South East region.

Over the next 12 months areas of focus will be to:

- Incorporate Prevent awareness into the Communities Against Exploitation Campaign to highlight what is happening locally and to increase community knowledge on all types of extremism
- Undertake a self-assessment audit of the Prevent Duty through the Prevent Board to ensure all partners are meeting the requirements of the Prevent Duty and to develop areas where there are areas for further improvement
- Ensure the learnings from the Parsons Green Attack are incorporated in the self-assessment.

Anti-Social Behaviour and Hate Crime

Anti-social behaviour is a broad term used to describe the day-to-day incidents of crime, nuisance and disorder that make many people's lives a misery – from litter and vandalism, to public drunkenness or aggressive dogs, to noisy or abusive neighbours.

Such a wide range of behaviours means that responsibility for dealing with anti-social behaviour is shared between a number of agencies, particularly the police, local councils and social landlords. Please see the District and Borough Overviews in this document for localised ASB plans.

A number of crime types had declined compared to the previous year such as criminal damage which is down by 206 crimes. There was also a reduction in all types of Anti-Social Behaviour, particularly reports of ASB Nuisance (-2,174).

**TACKLING
ANTI-SOCIAL
BEHAVIOUR**

In 2017/18, there were 94,098 hate crime offences recorded by the police in England and Wales, an increase of 17% compared with the previous year. This continues the upward trend in recent years with the number of hate crimes recorded by the police having more than doubled since 2012/13.⁶

**REPORT
HATE CRIME**

While increases in hate crime over the last five years have been driven by improvements in crime recording by the police, there has been spikes in hate crime following certain events such as the EU Referendum and the terrorist attacks in 2017.

The Local Policing Model, directed by the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan sets out local policing in terms of **prevention**, **response** and **investigation** with the aim to remove silo working and improve consistency and partnership working.

Prevention Teams

Together with evidence from the local community gathered by the Police Prevention Teams or reported to police online or through the police call centre, they develop and prioritise an action plan with ASB and Hate Crime Coordinators, and Prevention Support and Engagement Officers, who have local knowledge and are able to assess the threat and harm.

We know that hate crime has historically been under reported. By prioritising demand on the basis of threat, harm, risk and vulnerability, the police hope to see greater public confidence and trust in them to take the right actions. Continued and closer collaboration with partners and communities in dealing with ASB and other crimes and incidents which affect the most vulnerable continues to improve how all organisations support victims and witnesses.

The ASB and Hate Crime Coordinators continue to work closely with key partners including statutory authorities and other agencies to ensure ASB & Hate Crime is accurately recorded as well as ensuring High and Medium risk ASB & Hate Crime cases and those involving repeat victims are identified and problem solved effectively with partners.

⁶ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/748598/hate-crime-1718-hosb2018.pdf

Drugs and Alcohol

Reducing drug-related harm

Early use of drugs increases the chances of becoming addicted. Preventing early use of drugs (and alcohol) can go a long way to reducing these risks. Young people are often exposed to greater availability of drugs, drug use by older teenagers and social activities where drugs are used when they start secondary school. They are also more vulnerable to peer pressure at this time. Hence education around drugs and alcohol in schools is an important part of prevention.

Achievements so far...

- A Public Health transformation programme to embed health improvement approaches in education settings has led to over 180 schools and colleges developing school health profiles and whole-school health improvement action plans. An aspect of the programme has included supporting the provision of high quality health education, and relationships and sex education (RSE), often delivered by schools through Personal Social Health and Economic (PSHE) Education.
PSHE and RSE support services have also previously been commissioned to facilitate high quality delivery in schools, and PSHE Hubs have continued to be funded to offer ongoing school-to-school support for both primary and secondary schools. Through PSHE, pupils should be able to gain an essential understanding of how to be healthy, the problems and challenges, and, for example, know the facts about legal and illegal harmful substances and associated risks, including smoking, alcohol use and drug-taking.
- A new East Sussex Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) & Relationships and sex education (RSE) Support Service has been commissioned by Public Health and will commence work in 2019/20.

Over the next 12 months

- The East Sussex PSHE & RSE Support Service will support schools to prepare for the introduction of statutory Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education in all primary and secondary schools from September 2020.
- In primary schools, the subjects will aim to put in place the key building blocks of healthy, respectful relationships, focusing on family and friendships, in all contexts, including online. By the end of primary school children should know the facts about legal and illegal harmful substances and associated risks, including smoking, alcohol use and drug-taking, and the impact of alcohol on health.
- At secondary schools, teaching is then expected to further develop pupils' understanding of health, with an increased focus on risk areas such as drugs and alcohol, so that pupils should be taught about problems and challenges to include: the prevalence and characteristics of drugs and alcohol and information about effective interventions; the facts about legal and illegal drugs and their associated risks, including the link to serious mental health conditions; the law relating to the supply and possession of illegal substances; the physical and psychological risks associated with alcohol consumption and what constitutes low risk alcohol consumption in adulthood; the physical and psychological consequences of addiction, including alcohol dependency; awareness of the dangers of drugs which are prescribed but still present serious health risks.
The service offer will include: reviewing school readiness and identifying priority next steps; professional development opportunities for PSHE delivery staff, senior leaders and school governors and termly e-bulletins; resources for schools such as customisable model policies, action planning tools, parental engagement templates, PSHE curriculum and resources map, teaching guidance and lesson plans.

Care and Treatment

While we continue to be committed to reducing the crime, anti-social behaviour and social harms caused by substance misuse the provision of treatment and care has more of a focus on developing and sustaining recovery communities throughout the county, recognising the wider support needed to achieve and sustain a life free from drugs and crime. There has also been a change from bedded care and residential rehab to community detox and peer support for people in recovery.

In addition to the focus on primary prevention, the care and treatment services also focus on reducing drug-related harm in their clients. Provision includes: detecting and treating client's health problems; providing needle and syringe exchange to reduce the transmission of viral Hepatitis and HIV; supervised consumption of opiate substitutes which enable people to integrate back into society through employment, education etc; and naloxone distribution programmes to reduce drug-related deaths

Achievements so far...

- Extensive consultation has been carried out with a wide range of stakeholders. This has resulted in the design of a new service which, whilst maintaining a focus on specialist drug and alcohol treatment, will further concentrate on a person centred, holistic approach. This will use specialist and wider community assets to support service users' reintegration into their wider community.
- Our specialist third sector provider has continued to provide a wide range of treatment interventions. These have been provided from a range of locations across the county and range from medical to psycho-social. The provider has also continued responsibility for managing admissions to residential rehabilitation or exploring other options as appropriate.
- A celebration of recovery – the South Coast User Forum Conference was held in September at the De La Warr Pavilion, Bexhill. This was a very successful which combined recovery stories, dramatic and musical performances and a display of art work which highlighted the many different paths to recovery.
- A series of partnership sessions have been organised by the Community Development Officer. These have involved all stakeholders from the recovery community to share information and develop new working pathways.
- The rate of representations to the treatment service has remained low after the change in emphasis from concentration on completions to the number of unique users accessing the service. This also means the service continues to support the most complex set of users in the most appropriate way.
- Presentations of young people to the multi-agency East Sussex Under 19's Substance Misuse Service remain well above the national average due to the successful integration of care pathways across vulnerable children's services.
- At quarter 2 2018/19 there were 209 young people in treatment, 95% receive a planned discharge and only 1% represent at a subsequent treatment episode post service discharge. The multi-disciplinary team work with a range of wider client vulnerabilities such as mental ill health and sexual exploitation to avoid onward referral and building upon the evidence based principles of developing Trusted Relationships to achieve sustained change. The service offer is integral to the MACE operational group and good practise was reported during the LSCB and Ofsted inspection case audits for children involved in criminal exploitation.



Over the next 12 month

- Commence the new contract for drug and alcohol treatment services on 1st June 2019. The new service will focus on the priorities identified through our ongoing consultation with clients, families, community groups and professionals and include dual diagnosis, protected characteristics, housing, and Education, Training and Employment.
- Undertake two confidential inquiries into those drug related deaths that have occurred within East Sussex. We will include a brief 'reflection' on each death to consider whether there are any indications of opportunities for earlier intervention and whether there are lessons to be learnt that would enable partners to focus resources on areas of work that could reduce the frequency and underlying causes of drug related deaths within the county.
- Take the learning from the Dependence Forming Medication (DFM) Service that has been piloted at Station Practice in Hastings to other areas of the County.
- Continue to support the recovery community through the Community Development Officer. There will be ongoing specialist support for mutual aid projects as well as continuing development of the Partners in Recovery Network..
- The Innovation Fund will be re-launched inviting bids for mutual aid and peer support projects. These projects will allow mutual providers to develop an accessible, flexible and sustainable approach to provide services addressing local areas of need.
- The recovery community will continue to be supported by the Community Development Officer. There will be ongoing specialist support for mutual aid projects as well as continuing development of the Partners in Recovery Network.
- Explore the integration of substance misuse information, advice and other key messages into existing training packages with key stakeholders and partners.
- The Under 19's SMS will respond to the findings of the East Sussex Learning Needs Analysis 2018 and enhance its existing practise in relation to the delivery of trauma intervention in line with what works in responding to individuals misusing drugs and alcohol.
- Work will be undertaken with key partners, including Sussex Police, to address the perceived "normalised" use of drugs and drug dealing in East Sussex. This has become more apparent in the urban areas mainly with the use of white powder e.g. Cocaine. Often these individuals do not consider their drug use to be a problem and do not self-identify as having an addiction which requires support. This group may also be unaware of the wider implications of buying illicit drugs as the seller is usually someone not known to them and likely to be involved in serious and organised crime.



Reducing Alcohol Related Harm

Alcohol misuse is a sizeable problem in the UK, costing the NHS £3.5 billion a year⁷ and the economy over £17 billion per year when accounting for alcohol-related crime and lost productivity costs. Whilst the majority of people who consume alcohol do so within safe levels, more than 10 million people consume more than the recommended daily limits.⁸ And though alcohol consumption has been declining in recent years, alcohol-related harm is still at record levels.

In England, alcohol misuse is the biggest risk factor attributable to early mortality, ill-health and disability for those aged 15 to 49 years, and the fifth most important for all ages.⁹ Alcohol related harm disproportionately affects the poorest in society.

Achievements so far...

The East Sussex Alcohol Partnership is continuing to develop a more community centred approach to reducing alcohol harm in the county. Beginning with the Hastings Alcohol Inquiry (HAI) the alcohol partnership is exploring the full range of effective ways to empower communities in East Sussex to develop a healthier relationship with alcohol.

Work is ongoing to support the HAI to implement the recommendations agreed with local agencies.

The Ore Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) a multi-agency partnership in Hastings received an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Tackling Underage Drinking in 2018. Some of the key successes include:

A group of young people passed the Royal Society of Public Health Understanding Alcohol Misuse Module of the Young Health Champions course and are now peer influencers in their school.

There are two social marketing projects, focusing on alcohol, commissioned by Hastings and Rother CCG and implemented through a local multi-agency programme group. **The 'Think Again Now' behaviour change programme** was piloted in short blasts during 2017 and 2018 with the aim of reducing parental supply of alcohol to 11-15 year olds. The campaign is informed by insight which shows parents behaviour of supplying alcohol to their underage children is informed by several myths. 'Think Again Now' is designed to debunk those myths and inform parents with evidence regarding the serious harm alcohol causes to the physical health of 11-15 year olds. During two short periods of two weeks and one month the campaign showed a positive change in attitudes within the target audience. Further investment is required to optimise the programme and move parents from changing their understanding and attitudes towards sustainably changing their behaviour reducing the supply of alcohol to 11-15 year olds.

The second project resulted in the establishment of **Hastings Safe Space** which aims to reduce inappropriate alcohol-related A&E attendances and ambulance callouts. This continues after a successful pilot in 2017. It provides support, advice and first aid to vulnerable young people during the night-time economy. It operates from His Place Church in Central Hastings on Saturdays from 10PM – 4AM.



⁷ Local Government Organisation (January 2013), Public health and alcohol licensing in England: LGA and Alcohol Research UK briefing.

⁸ Office for National Statistics (February 2015), Alcohol-related Deaths in the United Kingdom.

⁹ Public Health England (2016) The Public Health Burden of Alcohol and the Effectiveness and Cost-Effectiveness of Alcohol Control Policies: An evidence review. Crown copyright 2016.

The Alcohol Health Harm report in East Sussex focuses on the health aspects of alcohol and pulls together information on alcohol-related behaviours and health outcomes in East Sussex. It continues to be used to inform local work, e.g. the development of the Eastbourne Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) with a focus on those areas where the harms are highest. Several agencies in Eastbourne have agreed that initiating a local Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) will help reduce underage drinking in the borough. It is currently in the early stages of development, informed by robust local intelligence; discussions with several partner agencies are in progress to agree which community could most benefit from a CAP programme in East Sussex.

Over the next 12 months we will...

- Continue multi-agency work that addresses the issues identified in the regional Alcohol CLear self-assessment and peer review process throughout 2019.
- Take forward the Alcohol Partnership Group priorities as follows:
 - Develop local policies to prevent or reduce alcohol use by young people by exploring sources of funding to invest further in the 'Think Again Now' programme;
 - Explore the full range of community centred approaches which increase participation of local people in a systems approach to reducing alcohol related harm;
 - Explore funding opportunities to develop targeted social marketing campaigns to encourage behaviour change in increasing and high risk drinkers;
 - Promote responsible sales and target problem premises;
 - Explore the feasibility of taking learning from Hastings initiatives to other areas of the county i.e. the development and implementation of a CAP in Eastbourne;
 - Work to progress evidence-based initiatives within the local NHS.
 - Up-date the report Alcohol Health Harm in East Sussex in 2019.
 - Work with the Hastings Alcohol Inquiry Panel to ensure local people play an on-going and active role in shaping solutions to reduce alcohol related harm.
 - Expand the parent's social marketing campaign to a wider area and evaluate its impact.



Domestic Violence & Abuse, Stalking and Rape & Sexual Violence and Abuse

Incidents of domestic violence and abuse, rape and sexual violence, stalking and harassment and harmful practices (such as forced marriage, honour based violence and female genital mutilation), as reflected nationally, continue to increase in East Sussex. There is also a need to recognise hidden prevalence and to consider impact from an equalities, and whole family perspective.

In East Sussex in the 12 months to August 2018, there were a total of:

- **9,261** reports of Domestic Abuse-related incidents and crimes (+9.6% compared to the previous year) This increase is likely to be, in part, driven by an increase in domestic abuse-related incidents coming to the attention of the police, improvements in crime recording practices and an increased willingness of victims to come forward.
- **1,345** reports of Sexual Offences (+7.8% compared to the previous year)
- **375** reports of Stalking
- Between October 2017 and September 2018, there were **794** high risk cases discussed in East Sussex, at the Hastings & Rother MARAC and Eastbourne, Lewes & Wealden MARAC. This represented an increase of 73 cases (57%) since 2015
- Of the 794 cases, there were **179** repeat victims (22.5%) and a total of **1,255** children living in the household of victims.
- In East Sussex, in the 12 months to September 2018, Sussex Police received **14** Right to Know33 applications and **27** Right to Ask34 applications.
- There were a total of 454 domestic homicides recorded by the police in England and Wales between April 2013 and March 2016. In 2018 there were **4** homicides in East Sussex where the victim's death was suspected to have been caused by domestic violence and abuse, 3 of which are subject to a 'Domestic Homicide Review' (DHR).

There is a challenge facing all agencies to maintain and develop services in response to need, acknowledging the following key types of intervention:

- Quality, sufficient responsive and emergency support through commissioned specialist services and effective partnership working between agencies
- Prevention work that challenges attitudes and behaviours and educates future generations
- Recovery provision that acknowledges the long term impact of domestic violence and abuse, sexual violence and abuse, stalking and harassment and harmful practices on victims and survivors, and their families.
- There is wide recognition that our collective response to these issues is victim focused, and whilst we must always protect those who are at risk, there is a challenge facing us in changing the way we work to intervene with perpetrators at an earlier stage, through proactive behavioural change programmes and effective criminal prosecution.



Achievements so far...

- Worked in partnership to review the systems we use to support those at risk. The resulting recommendations have led to the initiation of:
- A redesign project for the MARAC process to focus on victim outcomes and managing significantly increased demand
- A recommissioning programme for specialist services.
- Completed a comprehensive stakeholder consultation exercise resulting in the AVA (Against Violence and Abuse) Report, which has informed the development of a new Partnership Strategy Framework for Domestic Violence and Abuse, Sexual Violence and Abuse, Stalking and Harassment and Harmful Practices. Work is underway to finalise the strategy through further stakeholder involvement, and to develop a detailed delivery plan over a 6 year period that has partnership working at its core. Key focuses include sustainability of services, equality of access to services, and for East Sussex, ease of access to services in a largely rural community.
- In East Sussex a number of agencies have worked together in order to roll out Operation Encompass, to enable schools to support children who live with domestic abuse more effectively.

Operation Encompass is an early information sharing partnership enabling schools to offer immediate support for children and young people experiencing domestic abuse. Information is shared by the police with a school's trained key adult prior to the start of the next school day after officers have attended a domestic abuse incident.

Operation Encompass went live in the Hastings Opportunity Area in December 2018. 26 out of 28 schools in the area signed up to the project in December and the aim is to have all 28 schools signed up.

Schools have been trained in how to respond and access to advice from Children's Services is in place. Our SWIFT service will be creating a resource pack to help school staff work with children. Operation Encompass will be rolled out Countywide from Easter 2019.
- 16 Days of Action saw a multi-agency effort to raise awareness of domestic abuse and sexual violence across East Sussex.
- A successful bid was made to the MHCLG for Refuge Provision over the next 2 years, and several multi-agency and voluntary sector externally funded projects have continued to enable us to explore local need and develop our response (e.g. Rita Project East Sussex Learning Events focused on working in rural communities). There is ongoing commitment to secure external funding through partnership working, and whilst some bids were not successful we continue to seek to identify new funding opportunities to bring in further resources to the area.
- A training and awareness raising programme has continued to be delivered throughout the year and a review is taking place to ensure that future training and awareness raising is integrated with training offered through the safeguarding boards, and that multi-agency delivery adds value to training ensuring learning is focused and relevant for services.

Over the next 12 months we will...

- Finalise the new partnership strategy and begin implementation of the partnership delivery plan to maintain or improve response for victims and their families, and to perpetrators
- Recommission specialist domestic violence and abuse and sexual violence and abuse (DVSV) services
- Implement the new MARAC operating model
- Develop and implement a new partnership training and awareness programme for DVSV
- Develop and improve a wider stakeholder and community network to support awareness raising and response to DVSV, stalking and harassment and harmful practices.

Reducing Re-Offending



Integrated Offender Management (IOM)

The Home Office estimates that nationally 0.5% of offenders commit 10% of offences; in addition 10% of offenders commit 50% of offences. A significant proportion of crime is committed by a relatively small group of persistent or prolific offenders who cause harm and distress to individuals and to our communities.

Integrated Offender Management (IOM) brings a cross-agency response to manage the small amount of offenders who cause a disproportionate amount of crime. Historically, therefore the IOM Sussex cohort has been made up of serious acquisitive offenders. From May 2017 offenders regardless of offence type, who are having the most impact on our local communities will be considered for offender management arrangements by local IOM teams. This means the scheme will now manage a wider cohort of offenders including;

- Domestic Violence Perpetrators
- Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (1)
- Serious Organised Crime
- Child Sexual Exploitation

Youth Offending

In East Sussex young offenders are managed by the Youth Offending Team. More information on their work can be found here:

www.eastsussex.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies/youngpeople/youthoffending/yotworker/yotteam/

Women's Justice and the Whole Systems Approach

The Corston Report published 10 years ago in response to the alarming numbers of women dying in prison, recognised that most women who go to prison have not committed a violent crime. Corston recommended women in custody should be referred to women's centres for support and supervision in the community, to receive help for problems such as addiction, mental illness, homelessness and domestic violence.



Ministry of
JUSTICE

Whole Systems Approach to Female Offending

The Whole System Approach (WSA) for Female Offenders assesses a woman's needs at her first contact with the criminal justice system, and provides holistic support throughout her justice journey. Through early intervention when a woman first comes into contact with the police, the aim is to divert appropriate low-level offenders out of the justice system into support to address needs that may be underlying her offending. These are often complex vulnerabilities, such as domestic abuse, drug and alcohol misuse, mental health issues, and other barriers to education, training and employment. By providing holistic support throughout the offender journey, we will see fewer women serving short custodial sentences, and re-offending.

In Sussex, the WSA project delivers a women's triage and diversion service, operating out of six police custody suites. It builds on an existing 12-month project coordinated by Sussex Police and Brighton Women's Centre, working with women offenders as they reach custody. The enhanced approach also incorporates Out of Court Disposals and access to the Voluntary Attendance Suites, which allows the individual to attend a police interview, or help progress a case, in their own time, which has shown to improve their engagement in the process.

Female Offender Strategy

June 2018, the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) published the Female Offender Strategy, which seeks to move emphasis from "custody to the community". This strategy marks the launch of a new programme of work to improve our collective approach to female offenders and make society safer by tackling the underlying causes of offending and reoffending. The strategy commits to:

- Invest £5 million of cross-Government funding over two years in community provision for women.
- Work with local and national partners to develop a pilot for 'residential women's centres' in at least five sites across England and Wales.
- Reducing the number of women serving short custodial sentences.

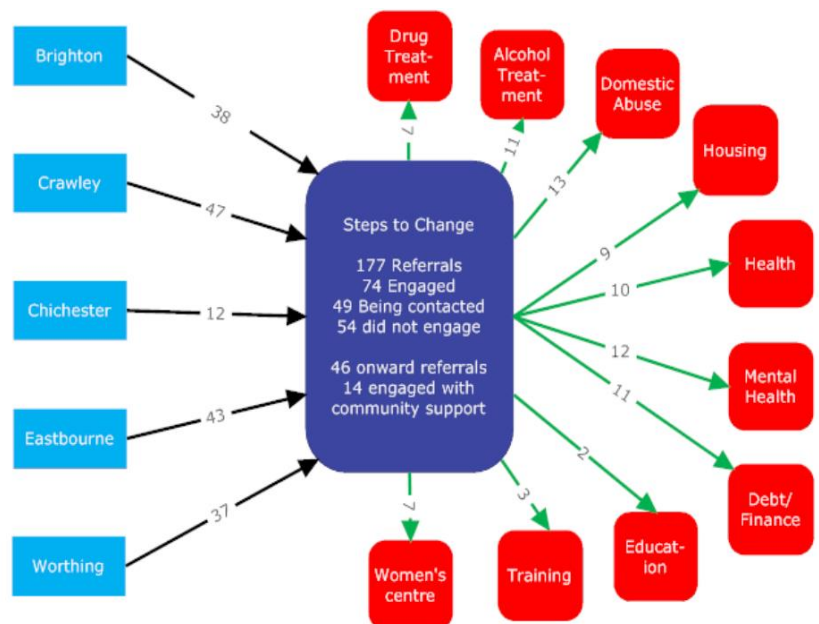
To support implementation, they are publishing alongside this strategy:

- Guidance for the police on working with vulnerable women, developed in partnership with the National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC) and guidance on the development of whole systems approaches.

Achievements so far

- Sussex is one of 6 regions across the country to be successful in gaining a grant of almost £194,000 over the next three years from the Ministry Of Justice Whole System Approach for Female Offenders Funding.

This diagram provides an overview of the project's work to date. The numbers in the green outcome arrows refer to the number of women who have received help with a particular area of need either direct from a WS2C worker or from a community agency to which they have been referred. Many women received help with more than one issue.



Over the next 12 months we will

- Continue strategic support to embed the whole systems approach to women's justice in East Sussex
- Assist in the implementation of the Female Offender Strategy through our joint work at the Reducing Re-Offending Sub Group of the Surrey Sussex Criminal Justice Board.

Armed Forces Community



The Armed Forces Network established in 2011, which is funded by Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) across Sussex, Kent and Medway, supports CCGs in meeting obligations to the Armed Forces Community set out in the Armed Forces Covenant, the NHS Constitution, NHS Contracts and The 10 Year Plan.

Integration and collaborative working is required across the system to meet the needs of the Armed Forces Community, which is why the Network is a member of the East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership. It ensures this community are taken into account in all areas.

Thus providing:

- Support to individual vulnerable and complex members of the Armed Forces Community.
- Support through faster appropriate care for the Armed Forces Community whether reservists/regulars to be deployable or those who have been impacted by serving or a member of their family.
- Holistic support for individuals, families and carers to ensure wellbeing, prevention and care.
- Support to ensure the quality and safety of the armed forces community.
- Support the transition and utilisation of this community as an asset to the wider population and prevention unwanted diversions.

The East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership has integrated the requirements of a Civil Military Partnership Board within it. It therefore has the responsibility to meet the needs of this population and ensure engagement with employers and youth occurs in partnership with Military organisations.

Key focus over the next 12 months

- Armed Forces Service Champions Training
- Armed Forces Network Veterans, Families and Carers Training linked with social prescribing
- Mental Health First Aid Training
- Suicide Prevention for the Armed Forces Community
- Development of the CMPB functions in East Sussex



Work Streams Overseen by Other Partnership Structures

Below is a list of various partnerships whose work streams overlap and connects with the Community Safety Agenda

East Sussex Better Together

A partnership of organisations working together to plan and deliver health and care in Eastbourne, Hailsham, Seaford, Hastings, Rother and surrounding areas

<https://news.eastsussex.gov.uk/east-sussex-better-together/>



Rough Sleeping Initiative

The Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) awarded joint-funding of £664,000 to both Hastings and Eastbourne for a project aimed at getting rough sleepers into long-term housing. The project will focus on working with rough sleepers to get into long-term accommodation and involves the setting up of 'Housing First' units, where people with the most complex needs can get shelter and one-on-one support.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/james-brokenshire-announces-30-million-immediate-support-for-rough-sleepers>

Sussex Rough Sleeper Prevention Project

The Home Works service is a key partner in the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) funded Rough Sleeper Prevention Project, with two specialist rough sleeping prevention workers (RSPCs) co-located in the housing teams of Hastings and Eastbourne District Borough Councils.

<https://www.southdown.org/news-jobs/news/introducing-sussex-rough-sleeper-prevention-project>

Water Safety – ESFRS

Since 2013 72 people have died in and around the waters of our County and the most recent figures from The National Water Safety Forum (NWSF) show that in 2016 there were a total of 16 deaths in East Sussex related to water.

<https://www.esfrs.org/your-safety/water-safety-drowning-prevention/>

Sussex Safer Roads Partnership

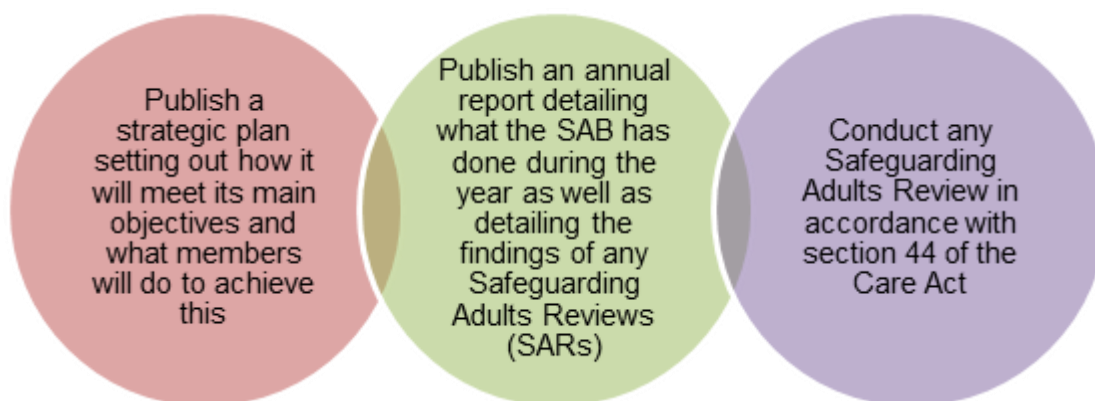
The Sussex Safer Roads Partnership (SSRP) The Sussex Safer Roads Partnership (SSRP) comprises Sussex Police, East and West Sussex County Councils, East and West Sussex Fire and Rescue Services, Brighton and Hove City Council and Highways England, and believes that together, we can create a safer environment for all road users, significantly reduce life-changing injuries and eliminate fatalities.

<https://www.sussexsaferroads.gov.uk/>

Sussex Safer Roads
P A R T N E R S H I P

East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board

The Care Act 2014 sets out the first ever statutory framework for adult safeguarding, which stipulates local authorities' responsibilities, and those with whom they work, to protect adults who may be at risk of abuse or neglect. One of these responsibilities requires the local authority to establish a Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) in their area. The SAB has three core duties:



In terms of community safety and the threats identified within the Strategic Assessment of Community Safety 2016 that are not outlined elsewhere in the Business Plan, it is important to note the Safeguarding Adults Board oversees adult safeguarding practice that includes the threat of elder abuse with appropriate partners.

Practice, policy and training with regards to mental capacity, self-neglect, and appropriate interventions, have been reviewed across multi-agency partners, in light of a Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR), evaluating multi-agency responses to the death of a man aged 64 in a nursing home placed by an out of area Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). Updated Sussex Self-neglect procedures will be launched early 2019, and the Safeguarding Community Network (formerly known as the Client and Carers Safeguarding Advisory Network) continues to raise awareness of elder abuse, the role of carers and sharing knowledge.

The SAB will be focussed in 2019-20 on ensuring that the principles of Making Safeguarding Personal (adults being involved and consulted in the process of helping them to stay safe and agreeing goals to achieve), are embedded within safeguarding practice across all agencies, that adults with care and support needs, assist to shape the work of the SAB and safeguarding responses, and that learning from reviews is effectively carried forward across agencies



Local Safeguarding Children's Board - Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) Operational and Strategic Groups

The MACE partnership remains strong and is increasingly effective at providing an effective multi agency response to the identification and management of risks associated with child criminal exploitation.

In 2018, LSCB partners agreed to broaden the referral criteria of the MACE Bronze Operational Group and Silver Strategic Panel to take into account those young people who were subject to criminal exploitation such as "County Lines" involvement, as well as sexual exploitation. The MACE operational guidance was updated in 2018 to reflect this.



The role of the MACE strategy group includes the development of an annual multi agency action plan and the regular completion of case audits to quality assures the multi-agency operational response. In 2018/19 the MACE audit identified that professionals need to be aware of the risk of overwhelming children with too many professionals which can lead to disengagement with services. It is important to identify the lead practitioner who can build a trusted relationship with the child. This will lead to children and young people being more engaged with the support on offer and they will feel less overwhelmed.

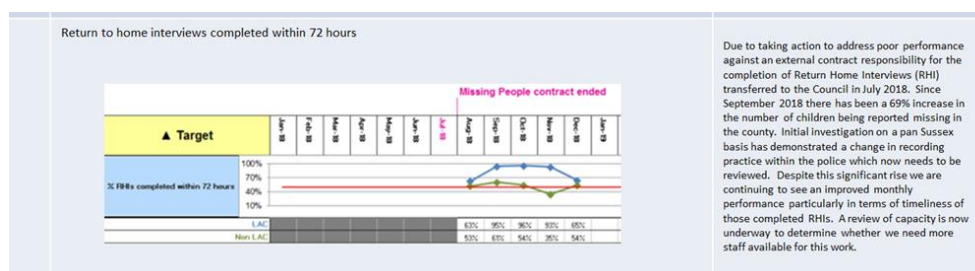
Accountability for the child exploitation agenda is to the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) with membership and reporting links to the Youth Offending Team Chief Executive Group and the Safer Communities Board.

The East and West operational "bronze" groups are co -chaired by Social Care and Sussex Police and provide the multi-agency oversight of risks and safety planning for individual children and groups of children, identified as being vulnerable or involved in Child Exploitation within East Sussex. During 2018 the 'Bronze' Operational Group delivered a multi-agency response to 66 children (30 East and 36 West). Of this number 44 are no longer MACE having been discharged with risks reduced.

The 'silver' MACE group has five current priorities:

- Deliver a holistic and effective response to children and young people referred to MACE;
- Raise awareness within the community and deliver preventative education;
- Develop a 'disruption toolkit' to divert children and young people from being exploited and disrupt those engaging in child exploitation;
- Strengthen support and safeguarding arrangements for transitional 18-25 year olds (with a particular focus on care leavers); and
- The MACE strategic group provides oversight of children who are reported missing.

Over the next 12 months the work of the MACE will include the development of a local multi agency response to contextual safeguarding and continued development of MACE in line with a growing awareness of the impact of County Lines.



East Sussex Road Safety Programme

East Sussex County Council is currently in the process of implementing a two to three year programme for work designed to reduce the number of people killed and seriously injured in East Sussex. Using dedicated funding from Public Health, this work began with detailed data analysis of the key issues underlying collisions and to identify those at higher risk of being involved in an incident which results in someone being killed or seriously injured.

The project is implementing a number of targeted behaviour change programmes, specifically designed to address the identified groups and underlying issues, together with a number of evidence based infrastructure schemes designed to target high risk locations across East Sussex. Both these elements are currently in the process of being implemented. Emerging initial outcomes are expected from Autumn 2019 with a full analysis of outcomes available by Spring 2020. It is expected that the outcomes from both aspects of this programme of work will inform the future direction of road safety work both within ESCC and across Sussex more broadly.

This programme of work is data and evidence driven and is being implemented in line with national best practice, following a review of successful similar schemes elsewhere with the overall aim of improving road safety and reducing the number of people killed and seriously injured on the roads in East Sussex. It is being delivered with the support of the Behavioural Insights Team who are leading experts in the field of behaviour change.



Police and Crime Plan

The Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) has a statutory duty to set the policing and crime objectives for their area through a Police & Crime Plan.

A new Police & Crime Plan was developed last year which sets out the strategic policing objectives for how policing services will be delivered in Sussex across 2017/21. An Operational Delivery Plan sets out how the Chief Constable will use its resources to deliver policing services and achieve the objectives set out in the Police & Crime Plan.

The PCC has confirmed the following four policing and crime objectives, each containing three underpinning aims, for 2017/21 as follows

Strengthen local policing

- Ensure local policing services are accessible
- Provide effective specialist capabilities to support local policing
- Maintain engagement in the delivery of local policing services to improve public confidence

Work with local communities and partners to keep Sussex safe

- Encourage and support local communities to prevent crime and disorder
- Work with partners to reduce offending and reoffending
- Catch criminals and prevent serious and organised crime and terrorism

Protect our vulnerable and help victims cope and recover from crime and abuse

- Commission high-quality services which support victims
- Prioritise access to services for vulnerable victims
- Enhance our understanding and meet the needs of victims in Sussex

Improve access to justice for victims and witnesses

- Ensure victims and witnesses have the most positive experience of the criminal justice system
- Support vulnerable victims and witnesses
- Maximise the use of technology to improve access to justice for all

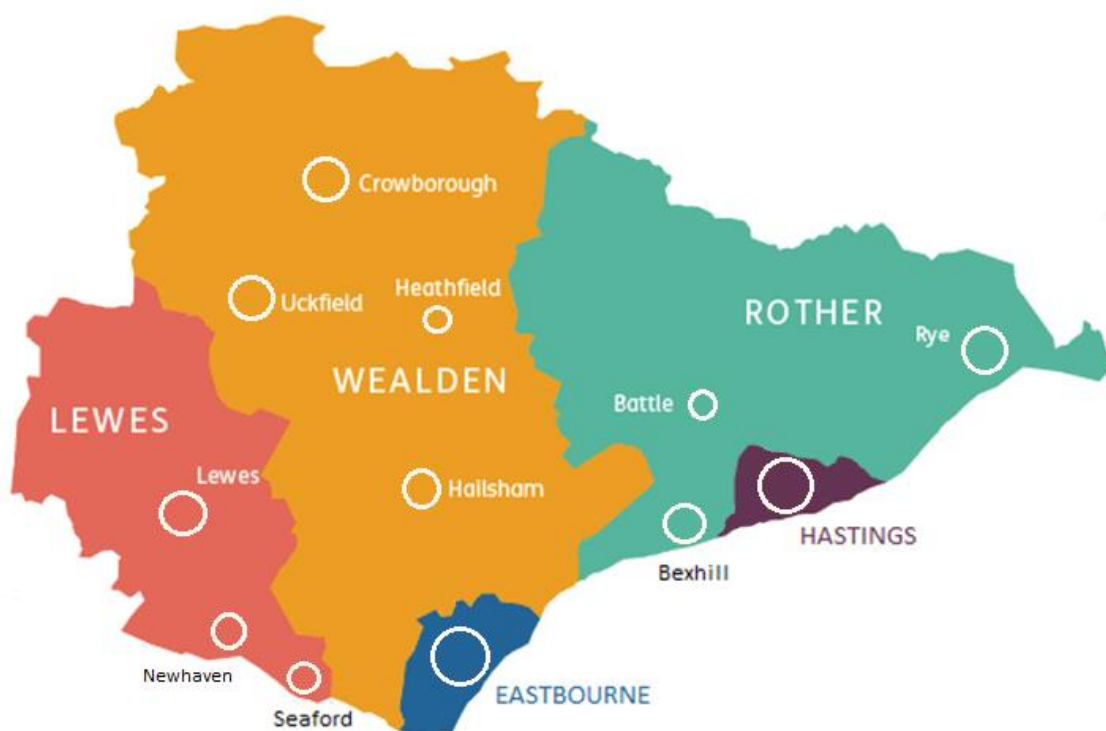
The PCC has supported the Chief Constable in the development of the Sussex Police 2018/22 Transformation Strategy. The Strategy sets out how the Force will use the additional funding provided by the PCC to modernise and strengthen local policing. Now that the Strategy has been launched, the PCC will hold the Chief Constable to account for its delivery, including monitoring progress and challenging, where appropriate, on behalf of the public.

District and Borough Community Safety Overviews

There are four local Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) in East Sussex:

- **Eastbourne and Lewes Community Safety Partnership**
- **Safer Hastings Partnership**
- **Safer Rother Partnership**
- **Safer Wealden Partnership.**

The local partnership priorities follow, to deliver the priorities each Borough or District area has a separate action plan.



Eastbourne and Lewes Community Safety Partnership



What are the Eastbourne priorities and why?

- **Street Communities** – Anti-social behaviour associated with street communities in the town remains a source of concern for Eastbourne residents, businesses and visitors. Our new Eastbourne and Lewes Street Community Strategy recognises that people living and sleeping on our streets are amongst the most vulnerable in our community. We will work closely with the new Eastbourne and Lewes Street Communities Partnership to ensure we address the issues presented by street communities in an effective way whilst ensuring appropriate services are in place which meet their needs and reduce the need to be on the streets.
- **Anti-Social Behaviour** – Anti-social behaviour remains a key priority for residents of Eastbourne adversely affecting their quality of life. Young people involved in ASB are being targeted by criminal gangs and are particularly vulnerable to being drawn into criminal activity. We will work with Children's Services, the police and other partners to develop specific projects to reduce anti-social behaviour amongst young people and protect them from the risk of serious exploitation.
- With the nature of crime continually changing we need to support our most vulnerable residents from new and emerging threats which they may be particularly at risk of falling prey to. We will continue to respond proactively to **Emerging Threats and Priorities Based on Threat, Risk and Harm**. We are concerned by the growth of violent crime and organised crime and, in particular, the impact of this on young people, particularly in relation to drugs. In partnership with members of the Eastbourne Youth Partnership, we will explore ways of preventing young people from becoming involved in anti-social behaviour, violent crime and substance misuse.
- Contributing to the Work of Agencies and Partnerships that have a Leading Role in **Working with Victims and Offenders** – We will continue to work closely with local partners to meet the needs of victims and offenders. Where the Community Safety Partnership does not have a leading role in delivering these services, it can play a key part in supporting and raising awareness of these. Our contributions will include support with funding and using our networks and communications to promote services and campaigns.

Achievements so far....

- Developed a Street Communities Strategy and launched a new Eastbourne and Lewes Street Communities Partnership.
- Trained staff and raised awareness of Prevent, Modern Slavery, County Lines, Cuckooing and Scams.
- Funded an Outreach Worker to engage with street communities and support them to access services.
- Raised awareness of domestic abuse through the Rita project and the White Ribbon Campaign and funded a drop in service for victims of domestic abuse



Over the next 12 months we will

- Review the demand for outreach engagement with street communities and continue our work with the Eastbourne and Lewes Street Communities Partnership and Rough Sleeping Initiative
- Complete a review of our Joint Action Group to ensure we deliver effective responses to anti-social behaviour in local neighbourhoods
- Work with the Eastbourne Youth Partnership to help young people at risk of being drawn into anti-social behaviour and crime stay safe
- Continue our work to raise awareness and reporting of domestic abuse and address the needs of those affected
- Support the Discovery Project to identify the extent of human trafficking and modern slavery in our area and support victims
- Deliver a programme of campaigns through our social media with a particular focus on Scams.



What are the Lewes priorities and why?

- **Anti-Social Behaviour** is a key priority for residents of Lewes District and a particular focus for members of the Community Safety Partnership.
- **Road Safety** - Road safety in the district continues to be raised as a concern by residents affected by speeding and dangerous driving in their local area and can affect people's lives and feelings of safety.
- **Young people at risk** - Young people involved in anti-social behaviour are being targeted by criminal gangs and are particularly vulnerable to being drawn into criminal activity. We will work with Children's Services, the police and other partners to develop specific projects to reduce anti-social behaviour amongst young people and protect them from the risk of serious exploitation.

- **Street Communities** - The presence of rough sleepers in parts of the district and incidence of anti-social behaviour related to street communities has been an increasing source of concern. The recent count of rough sleepers showed an increase on previous years and the migration of street communities between towns along the coast has increased the number of people living and sleeping on our streets.
- **Organised crime** - We are particularly concerned by the growth of violent crime and organised crime across the south, particularly in coastal towns.
- **Domestic abuse** continues to be under-reported. The Community Safety Partnership can play a key role in raising awareness and encouraging reporting, as well as ensuring services are in place to support the people affected.

Our achievements so far...

- Raised awareness of domestic abuse through the Rita Project and the White Ribbon Campaign
- Established Neighbourhood First teams focusing on anti-social behaviour and environmental issues
- Contributed funding to employ an Outreach Worker to work with street communities
- Promoted road safety campaigns and supported the development of community speedwatch initiatives
- Established a Lewes District Business Crime Working Group



Over the next 12 months we will

- We will continue to work with Town and Parish Councils and local groups and community groups to improve road safety drawing on the knowledge and experience of partners in Wealden.
- Review the demand for outreach engagement with street communities and continue our work with the Eastbourne and Lewes Street Communities Partnership and Rough Sleeping Initiative
- Complete a review of our Joint Action Group to ensure we deliver effective responses to anti-social behaviour in local neighbourhoods
- Continue our work to raise awareness and reporting of domestic abuse and address the needs of those affected
- Support the Discovery Project to identify the extent of human trafficking and modern slavery in our area and support victims
- Deliver a programme of campaigns through our social media with a particular focus on Scams

Safer Wealden Partnership

What are the priorities and why?

- Working to ensure local people feel safe and secure and reducing the fear of crime.
- Taking a dynamic and flexible approach to emerging threats and rising crime types.
- Working together to reduce the number of people killed or injured on Wealden's roads and to improve road safety awareness.
- Developing an engagement strategy relating to the protection of young people from serious crime.



The Partnership's priorities for the year ahead have been informed from several sources. The views of residents have been taken into account, these have been collected in a variety of local surveys; what crime data informs the partnership is happening in the district; and insights from people in this area of work.

It is also considered important that the partnership reflect in its priorities, what all partners working together can bring to an issue, rather than, as we have in the past focussed on a list of crime types. These priorities should create a more dynamic working environment and partnership, which has the ability to focus on any crime type or issues which emerge as posing a threat, risk or harm to the communities we represent.

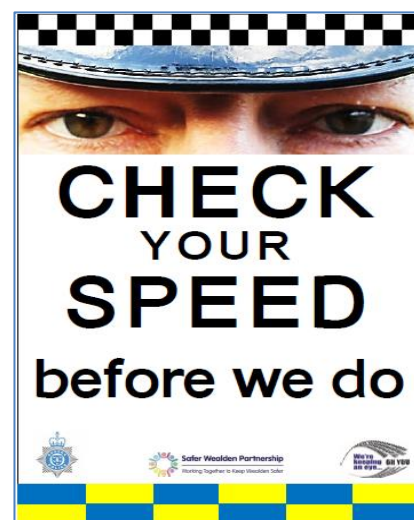
There is one exception to this more flexible approach and that is road safety. Wealden has the worst crash record in the County and local residents and communities clearly prioritise the subject for action.

This year we are including a new priority aimed to help protect young people in the district from getting involved in serious crime. Part of this work will be to have a conversation with young people to gain insight about the possible reasons for getting involved in crime and also importantly why the vast majority do not get involved. Hopefully this will improve knowledge about this important topic.

Achievements so far....

The Partnership has continued to work hard for the communities we serve to reduce crime and the fear of crime. As a partnership we are intelligence led and we also, wherever possible, evaluate our projects and interventions to ensure they make a difference and represent a good return on investment.

We have joined up with the Lewes district on our road safety plans. The Wealden and Lewes Road Safety Action Group have gone from strength to strength and now include members from the Kent Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance Trust and Network Rail. The group has championed several partnership projects aimed at making the areas roads safer. The 'We're keeping an eye on you' project featured in a documentary for Japanese television earlier in the year. The project was also featured at the National Road Safety Conference in Brighton.



The Action group has seen the number of 'Community Speedwatch' groups in the district increase to 14 with several more to become active soon.

Many successful projects have been carried out directly by partners or funded by the Safer Wealden Partnership to improve community safety and increase awareness of the issues over the year. These projects have included:

- Operation Blitz has been established in Wealden since 2011. It continues to provide a dedicated, visible and accessible policing resource for tackling nuisance behaviour and low level crime across the Wealden area at weekends and on specific occasions such as Halloween and Bonfire Night.
- Continued to support and partly fund the Friday Night project which provides diversion activities for young people in the Hailsham area on Friday evenings aimed at reducing anti-social behaviour in the town. The project was recently expanded to take in the Heathfield area.
- The Partnership has funded both Mediation Plus and the Safe from Harm initiatives to help to resolve anti-social behaviour related neighbourly disputes and offer support and advice to victims of anti-social behaviour and hate crime.

Over the next 12 months, we will...

- The Safer Wealden Partnership will continue to work hard for the communities it serves to reduce crime and the fear of crime and deliver on its priorities.
- As a partnership we are increasingly being intelligence led and use insights from the behavioural sciences to improve the effectiveness of any interventions. Many of the projects highlighted above will continue to be developed during the year ahead. As an example there has been a rise in theft from motor vehicles during the summer months, particularly in beauty spots across the district. As a result the Partnership will be reviewing its plans and putting measures in place in readiness for the spring and summer 2019.
- We will also be looking to develop new projects and joint working on emerging threats to the District and the people who live here.



Safer Hastings Partnership and Safer Rother Partnership

The **Safer Hastings Partnership** and the **Safer Rother Partnership** continue to work at board level as a joint strategic partnership with local differences managed by local authority area based Joint Action Groups. The joint work focuses on issues at both levels action helps in improving communication between partners, pools resources and makes the impact of interventions, initiatives and projects far more effective and long lasting.

Hastings and Rother share some similar issues and priorities (see below), and criminal activity crossing Rother, Hastings and Wealden and into the Kent area, although the extent that these issues affect local communities varies considerably from urban to rural, business to residential, tourist areas to back alleys.



Joint Community Safety priorities for 2019/20

Community safety priorities which continue to evolve as issues are investigated and examined by partner agencies. The annual Strategic Assessment demonstrates the range of community safety issues needing to be addressed. Local residents still consider antisocial behaviour (in all its forms) as the main issue that needs addressing. Both partnerships continue to support and address the wide range of issues described in the Strategic Assessment but will focus on:

- **Street & community related anti-social behaviour** – street based antisocial behaviour, in all its forms, causes alarm and distress to all. Medium and High Risk victims continue to be supported through the multi-agency ASBRAC process.
- **Violent Crime (especially Domestic Abuse)** – violence, either in public or at home is unacceptable. Public violent behaviour will not be tolerated in any of the town centres or in rural areas. Reported hidden violence and abuse continues to rise. More is also being dealt with. The safer community partnerships want to continue this positive activity and promote reporting of domestic abuse.
- **Youth Crime and vulnerable young people** – both in reducing young people as victims of crime and anti-social behaviour and working in partnership to reduce both the occurrence and impact of young people involved in crime and ASB.
- **Road Safety** - the Safer Hastings & Rother Roads Partnership group, delivers a range of campaigns and actions needed to reduce injury and make road use safer. Inconsiderate driving behaviour, especially speeding and lack of attention are of local concern.
- **Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking** – this hidden issue can be found in a variety of circumstances from caring and domestic services, farming, hand car washes to nail bars and takeaways. The exploitation of individuals across Rother and Hastings includes people trafficking UK residents across the country.
- **Partnership communications and reassurance messages** – Many messages about personal and community safety are lost in modern communication methods. Improving and focusing on messages that are important to residents, visitors and businesses will be developed.

Safer Hastings Partnership

Achievements so far....

The Hastings Street Community Partnership, consisting of 25 voluntary and statutory partner agencies, supported by the Safer Hastings Partnership helped Hastings Borough Council and Eastbourne & Lewes Council to obtain over £1M to tackle rough sleeping, an integral part of the street community profile.

Hastings Borough Council changed the role of its street wardens to enforce various aspects of the antisocial behaviour PSPO, taking the pressure off local police enforcement.

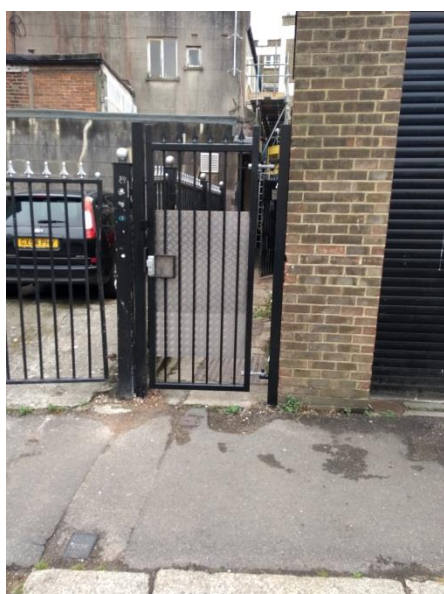


The Hastings Community Alcohol Partnership, re-launched in Ore, gained national recognition for innovation in addressing under-age alcohol abuse in October 2018. Students in a local school completed the RSPH alcohol module and continue to be ambassadors for the Community Alcohol Partnership.



The Discovery initiative continues to identify local areas of exploitation and Modern Slavery. Rother District Council, Hastings Borough Council and Police continue to participate in and carry out

successful operational and educational initiatives to address modern slavery and cuckooing across both areas, as a priority. It enables consistent practices and is an excellent example of developing and expanding initiatives across both Council areas



A number of prominent locations across Hastings and St Leonards have been redesigned to limit antisocial behaviour and improve the appearance of parts of Hastings.

Tackling those issues that make the Borough seem unattractive, like drug paraphernalia, litter and removing graffiti continues.

Safer Rother Partnership

What has been achieved in Rother in 2018/19.....

A significant amount of work in 2018/19 has focused on rough sleepers and members of the street community. This has included commissioning Seaview and partners to identify rough sleepers in Rother, engage and support them to access services including community support services, housing, mental health and substance misuse and with other agencies to find alternative solutions.



Hastings and Rother built on the campaign run in Rother in 2018 to deliver a White Ribbon Campaign – ‘16 Days of Action’ at locations across Rother and Hastings, including a social media campaign.

This enabled economies of scale both financially and in staff time, consistency and quality across both council areas and a more comprehensive campaign and communications system.



Cross partnership training sessions were delivered on the tools and powers available to address ASB e.g. Public Space Protection Order (PSPO), Community Protection Warning (CPW), Community Protection Notice (CPN) for council, police and social housing staff engaged in this work.

The **Rother Public Space Protection Order** to address Nuisance Behaviour and the Consumption of Alcohol in a Public Place was agreed and is being implemented by Rother District Council with partnership support.

The **Joint Hastings & Rother communications plan** is being delivered to help reassure residents that the partnerships are working together to address local community safety and anti-social behaviour issues.

The Safer Rother Partnership’s Joint Action Group and Rother District Council helped fund a number of diverse projects and initiatives over the last 12 months:

- The establishment of a community hub and Severe Weather Emergency Protocol (SWEP) Centre using the church community space.
- Safe from Harm service to provide dedicated Rother case work for victims of hate crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Variable Messaging System for both road safety and crime prevention messages including White Ribbon and other campaigns.
- CCTV at leisure facilities and public conveniences to address, criminal damage, drug dealing and taking, rough sleeping and issues with young people involved in ASB/drug dealing.

- Rent deposits for new homes in the private rented sector for victims of anti-social behaviour
- Work with the police, probation and substance misuse services to provide assistance with accommodation for ex-offenders as part of rehabilitation initiatives.
- National Bike register scheme combined with Hastings to check and report lost or stolen bikes, quick way to find owner details of abandoned bikes or bikes that are handed into Police Stations.

The emerging Rother priorities for 2019/20 include:

- **Rural Crime** - including cross border crime especially burglary, speciality thefts e.g. large plant and vehicles. This includes joint initiatives with Kent Policing and partner agencies in Rother.
- **County Lines** – drug supply and cuckooing in both urban and rural areas of Rother. In 2018/19 Rother has seen a significant increase in the issues relating to county lines and drug supply. This work will continue to focus on victims of cuckooing, the impact on the wider community and will include more joint work when county lines move/expand into Rother from Hastings and other areas.
- **Cocaine use across Rother** including in rural areas is seen by local police as a significant issue that needs addressing with partners including links to licensing, the community and support services.

Issues identified and prioritised during 2018/19. The following continue to be prioritised in Rother and interventions will continue during 2019/20:

- Delivering interventions under the ASB tools and power such as Public Space Protection Orders, Community Penalty Warnings and Community Penalty Notices.
- Drug supply and Cuckooing
- Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking - Discovery
- Rough Sleepers and the Street Community

