

**COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP BOARD**  
**Wednesday 2nd March 2022 1.30pm**  
**Microsoft Teams**

**Board Members:**

Cllr Carole Pattison (Chair)	Portfolio Holder, Kirklees Council
Amanda Evans	Service Director for Adult Social Care Operations
Jacqui Stansfield	Service Manager, Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board
Jill Greenfield	Head of Local Integrated Partnerships, Kirklees Council
Jo Richmond	Head of Communities, Kirklees Council
Lee Hamilton	Safer Kirklees Manager, Kirklees Council
Val Johnson	Third Sector Leaders Representative (TSL)
Joanne Atkin	Probation Service Kirklees
Clare Robinson	Head of Nursing & Safeguarding CCG
Dale Gardiner	District Commander Kirklees WYF
Cllr Naheed Mather	Labour, Dalton, Councillor
Cllr Mohan Sokhal	Labour Greenhead, Councillor
Cllr Mark Thompson	Conservative, Birstall and Birkenshaw, Councillor
Iain Yates	Delivery Manager Policing and Crime (WYCA)
James Griffiths	Kirklees District Commander (WYP)

**Also, in Attendance:**

Chani Mortimer	Service Manager Domestic Abuse & Safeguarding P'ships
Chris Walsh	Performance Lead, Kirklees Council
Gill Skelton	Business Support, Kirklees Council
Emily Parry- Harries	Head of Public Health, Kirklees Council
Caroline Henderson	Partnerships Officer
Nicola Hughes	Nicola Hughes Consulting
Michelle Hope	Programme Manager Strategy, Innovation and Planning
Helen Brear	Superintendent WYP
Helen Tune	Victim Support
Lorna Peacock	Head of Business Development Locala

**Apologies:**

Mel Meggs	Director of Children's Services, Kirklees Council
Michelle Anderson-Dore	Head of Partnerships Homes 7 Neighbourhoods

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**Item 2: Matters arising from Communities Board Papers 25<sup>th</sup> November 2021 – Councillor Pattison**

- Cllr Pattison – Welcomed all and reminded the group of the new format of these meetings and also that minutes are now being published on the Council's Website on the Safer Kirklees Webpage therefore any declarations of confidential items or information should be declared by the attendee/ board member at the time and will be shown as confidential in the minutes. The minutes will then be checked by the Legal Team. She asked members for their consent on publishing the minutes of the 25<sup>th</sup> of November 21 meeting. All agreed.
- Clare Robinson Head of Nursing & Safeguarding CCG advised she will shortly be retiring and therefore a replacement representative for the board from the CCG will be required.

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**LH to feedback to the Board after meeting with Joanne Bartholomew**

*LH Updated – On-going. A meeting with the Chief Finance Officer has been arranged to deliver a presentation on the impact of the work of the Town Centre Policing Team*

- **JA to update on what Probation is doing locally and nationally on quality assurance on managing the market on accommodation for people coming out of prison**

*JA Updated - Our regional Homeless Prevention Team (HPT) has produced a presentation for CSPs and other partners on HMPPS accommodation services, it was agreed the presentation forwarded to JR who will then either circulate with the minutes of this meeting or request it be presented at the June meeting.*

- **JR/LH to liaise with the legal team before raising a complaint with the CIC Regulator.**  
*LH Updated – On-going*
- **HG Ask that the Kirklees Specialist Accommodation Board review the need for accommodation for vulnerable adults (such as women coming out of prison/with complex needs) and report back to Communities Board.**  
*Update provided by Helen Geldart - At the Specialist Accommodation Board (SAB) on 29.11.21 the issue of unregulated supported housing was discussed. It was noted that the Communities Board had concerns around the increasing numbers of providers across Kirklees. It was noted the draft Specialist Accommodation Strategy includes reference to a range of vulnerable adults with complex needs including homeless women and ex-offenders. The draft Strategy is to be considered for approval by Cabinet in March/April 2022. It was agreed that the Board's Specialist Accommodation Sufficiency Sub-group should take stock of the current position and future needs and report back to the SAB. This work is ongoing.*
- **Housing to Explore opportunities for local or regional accreditation for 'good providers' that sets out our expectations, and links, where possible, to financial incentives (such as enhanced housing benefit)**  
*Update provided by Helen Geldart - Housing are exploring good practice examples with other West Yorkshire local authorities. We are mindful of the supported exempt accommodation oversight and engagement with key stakeholder's review which Government (DWP and DLUHC) announced on 21.11.21. The review is expected to result in revised guidance for specified accommodation housing benefit claims to improve consistency in decision-making for exempt accommodation.*
- **LH & JR to add victims of crime and anti-social behaviour to the TOR document.**  
*Complete*
- **CR nominated Vicky Dutchburn as deputy representative for CCG**  
*Complete*
- **LH& CW to share the presentation with members**  
*Complete*
- **LH/JR to check progress on West Yorkshire Plan.**  
*Complete - West Yorkshire Mayors Plan now available*
- **ALL members to forward comments on the SIA to LH&JR to write up the key objectives to produce and agree a Communities Partnership Plan, draft to next Communities Board.**  
*Complete – Partnership Plan on the agenda*
- **JG to liaise with JR and other partners to get indicator of measures and how we all contribute to them to update in March 2022**  
*On-going*
- All agreed Minutes of the last meeting as an accurate record

### **Item 3: DRAFT Communities Partnership Plan Jo Richmond/ Lee Hamilton**

JR – One of the duties of the CSP is to have a Partnership Plan and we are currently drafting our new plan. The new plan includes clear key priorities and measures to assist the board in monitoring progress of the individual delivery plans under each priority. We are also wanting to further develop key themes around lived experience and listening to local people and trying to imbed inequality of outcome where this can be identified. We are also exploring a trauma informed approach and how this can support community safety activity. These changes will be incremental; however, the key principle of prevention and early help remains.

LH – Outlined 4 strategic priorities, these being Tackling Violence Abuse and Exploitation, Reducing ASB and Neighbourhood Crime, Building Resilient and Inclusive Communities and Reducing Risk. Under each there are a number of working strategies and action plans. Each priority is then further explained and has key performance measures.

JR – The rest of the plan looks at governance and there is a summary of the SIA and a link to the full document. The Draft Plan has been to the Strategic Delivery Group, Adults Strategic Delivery Group, Communities SLT and will be going to Children's SLT, executive Team and Third Sector Leaders. She asked if there were anywhere else members feel the plan should be discussed/ consulted. The aim is to have a completed Plan ready for sign off at the Communities Board – June 2022. She also asked members to consider if we are missing anything and does the plan and if they feel the emphasis is right.

#### **Questions & Comments:**

EPH – Asked if we need to separate out the subjects which are very specific from those that are broader. For example, Water Safety is a very specific issue, and others are very broad, and we need a way of acknowledging different categories of issues. She also asked in regard to Water Safety if we have spoken to KAL as they provide the school swimming delivery which is a statutory duty for us to provide. JR advised they are listed as a partner in the plan, and this is being developed.

JGriff – In regard to Neighbourhood Crime we need to define what we class as Neighbourhood Crime so we can be clear on our priorities. He suggested we include what we class as serious acquisitive crime such as burglary and theft of and from vehicles and have ASB in addition. If we are not specific our goals will become unattainable.

IY. The Mayors Police and Crime Plan is due to be launched next week and the priorities within that really chime with the Partnership plan's priorities meaning that the 2 plans work together. The language in which the Mayor and the Combined Authority is referenced, may need some clarity in the introduction sections as to the role of the Combined Authority around community safety. He also added that robbery should be part of Neighbourhood crime.

JGriff – Agreed robbery needs to be included within the plan

JA – Confirmed that serious acquisitive crime includes robbery within their approach. In terms of the 4<sup>th</sup> priority of reducing risk this includes drugs and alcohol, but she would also like to see Mental Health included within this as a priority.

LH - Agreed to review as it is already covered in ASB

Cllr MT - Asked if we have studied the documents from the mayor's office to see if our plan fits in with the overarching West Yorkshire Police strategy to see if there are any gaps.

IY – There are 5 strategies within the Police and Crime Plan and the community safety plan has been mapped across these so it has common threads and in delivery they will dovetail.

Understanding the gaps will be looked at once both have launched and we have moved on to the next steps.

#### **Actions:**

**Any further comments on the draft Communities Partnership plan please forward to LH/JR**

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### **Item 4: Domestic Abuse Strategy Jo Richmond/ Chani Mortimer**

JR – The existing Domestic Abuse Partnership Strategy has drawn to a close and it is worth noting that over the duration of that plan there has been significant investment attracted by our partners particularly in the VCS. It has established some robust multi agency relationships, but we have identified that there are people continuing to face barriers to engage with services. Our new strategy

is a response to this and the Needs Assessment which was in part a response to the new duty to provide safe accommodation for victims and survivors of Domestic Abuse. The new strategy therefore incorporates a whole system response so everyone should get a consistent and coordinated response from any partner involved. The Needs Assessment identified that we needed to work upstream with young people and invest in support particularly therapeutic support for young people and that we need greater insight into some of the groups you would expect to be shown in our statistics that are not. It also highlighted challenges for people with complex needs such as substance misuse and mental health and the types of situations that occur when people are experiencing a number of issues. Additionally, it highlighted the need for more investment around perpetrator behaviour and also housing which we have some creative ideas about in order to resolve. JR added that the key thing we need to think about is how people live well not just recover so how we can support this long term.

CM – Added that she would welcome feedback from partners.

JR – The strategy will be coming back to board in June for sign off.

Cllr P - If we want to provide holistic support for people, we need the support of more partners especially if we want to support people long term and help them to live well.

### **Questions & Comments:**

EPH – Important we acknowledge that the work with perpetrators has a role to play in primary prevention for future generations as you are 2/3rds more likely to be a perpetrator if you have witnessed a parent being a victim of abuse in childhood. If this can be emphasised, it gives us a narrative as to why perpetrator work is so important.

JGriff – We don't know if an increase in reports of domestic abuse is a good thing as it is happening because messages are getting through or bad as there is an increase in incidents, so we need to understand if the work we are doing is working. One area Police are looking at is repeat victims and perpetrators. CM agreed it is very complex to put these measures in place but said that repeat offender s/victims is a good area to start with however he must consider that not all repeat offences are bad repeats as they may be because the victim may be reporting breaches of legal orders to police this is a positive result compared to on-going high-risk cases which is where we need to focus. The DASP has been discussing which performance measures are going to tell us how we are performing, and it is difficult to select one key measure.

VJ – Liked the emphasis on children and young people and supports the idea of a partnership approach to see what organisation working in Kirklees could do to support this work. We should also encourage these groups to apply for funding when available.

JA – Perpetrators having a high level of need is one of the elements that leads to repeat offences as they will quickly move from one relationship to another in order to meet their needs. Accommodation needs is often a factor as they will start a new relationship purely to have somewhere to live. By providing accommodation this will prevent this and also lets victims stay in the family home. There are funds available within probation for co- commissioning and she would be keen to talk with CM regarding this. CM said she would be interested in discussing this further as perpetrators have no priority for housing so anything we can do to provide access to housing would be beneficial.

Cllr NM – Asked if we are doing work with children who may be the perpetrators of domestic abuse. CM an activity has been included around this in the whole family approach, but this may be considered a child protection issue rather than Domestic Abuse. This dynamic is difficult to solve as parents often are unwilling to press charges.

CR – Agreed there needs to be a whole family approach

IY – Do we consider the use of technology in fighting domestic abuse in the strategy such as the use of Smartwater etc. CM - Weaves though all of the priorities but we can add this as a strategic aim to use it as a problem solver.

JR – At the DASP WYP updated us on the Smartwater Pilot and as things become available will be looking to add them as part of the delivery plan.

HB- WYP have been acknowledged by the National Police Chiefs' council in respect of proactivity around VAWG. The Smartwater Pilot is on-going within the force, 60 victims have been issued with Smartwater, 18 of which are in Kirklees the feedback to date is really positive as they say they feel

reassured, more confident and feel safeguarded and it is working as a deterrent. Wakefield CSP are progressing this further and funding this tool so it can be provided to other victims in the district.

### **Actions:**

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#### **Item 5: Inclusive Communities Framework**

JR provided the Board with an update on the current position of the Inclusive communities' framework (presentation shared with the papers of this meeting)

The framework has been developed following initial discussions around a Cohesion Strategy. Following feedback from communities, we realised we need to rethink our purpose as we were being told that people wanted to feel safe, connected, that they were being treated fairly and there were job opportunities. We therefore decided that an enabling approach was more appropriate. We have been working alongside Health and Wellbeing colleagues and those working on our Economic Strategy and other agencies. 3 Design circles have been completed and some key principles, draft approaches and measures have been agreed for working inclusively with communities.

Next steps are to produce the framework document and to continue with consultation, the document will then be brought back to the Communities Board and partners will be asked to take the framework back to their own organisations to see how this works within their organisation.

#### **Questions and Comments:**

Cllr NM – Very interesting and progressive and shows we are moving in the right direction this shows we are imbedding this practice, and this can be measured by leaders demonstrating that they are thinking about things in a holistic way.

### **Actions:**

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#### **Item 6: Board Planning - All**

Cllr P - 12 months ago, following the review undertaken of the Communities Board the Board agreed 4 x key strategic themes to focus upon in 21-22. These themes were Domestic Abuse (Sept 21), Unregulated Housing (Nov 21), Violence (March 22), Inclusion (June 22). As the last of these will be discussed at the next meeting in June, board members are asked to consider new themes for 22-23. In considering the themes, Board members should consider the strategic priorities within the Draft Partnership Plan and strategic functions of the Communities Board. Potential ideas include Reducing Reoffending, Impact of substance misuse of crime. Road Safety, Anti-Social Behaviour, CQC inspections (Adults).

#### **Questions and Comments:**

HB – Agreed Road Safety should be included as we need to address significant concerns around road casualties. It needs to be high on the agenda as well as VAWG she would also like to embed communications and engagement with our communities. She added that the NPT newsletters will be relaunched at the end of the month.

JGriff - VAWG fits with the police and mayors plans but as we are dealing with serious violence today maybe this should be put towards the end of the cycle. Another issue he would like discussed is Neighbourhood Crime and ASB incorporated with working with offenders.

LH - Suggested reducing reoffending, road safety, ASB and neighbourhood crime and the impact of substance misuse on crime.

Cllr NM - Agreed Road Safety as we can talk about the review that has been completed and how we can play our part in relation to Road Safety in the community.

JR - Currently rewriting our substance misuse strategy so it will come to the board anyway soon, reducing reoffending should be discussed as we have a statutory responsibility to make sure we have an effective strategy and we have not looked at this for some time.

Cllr P summarised - 3 things that have been repeatedly mentioned are reducing reoffending, the impact of substance misuse and road safety. We will take away these suggestions and look at what

will be a good discussion or those that are part of our statutory duties and bring these to the next meeting for agreement.

**Actions:**

**LH & JR – Bring together a list of substantive agenda items for agreement at the next Communities Partnership Board meeting in June.**

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**Item 7: Response to Serious Violence – West Yorkshire & Kirklees – Various Partners**

**Nicola Hughes** provided an overview of the West Yorkshire Response Strategy and upcoming Serious Violence Duty.

West Yorkshire Serious Violence Response Strategy – A requirement on the VRU is that annually they have to develop a response strategy around how they will tackle serious violence. That response strategy is informed by a Needs Assessment both of these documents have been produced at the beginning of February. The strategy this year includes a common definition and a common set of ambitions across the whole of west Yorkshire. Definition is wider than what the Home Office require and includes a set of priorities pertaining to the VRU for implementation but there is also a place-based priority for partners to contribute to. The Police and Crime Bill went back to the Commons earlier this week and then it will go back to the House of Lords before it receives Royal Assent. Within this bill it includes the Serious Violence Duty. This duty places responsibility on key partners which means we must consult and engage with education and prison partners. As part of this we must share data and use this to develop a strategy and undertake an annual review of that strategy. Draft guidance has been produced but there is no timeline attached to this as the bill is still going through parliament. Also included in the bill is a requirement on CSP's to formulate a strategy to reduce serious violence. The VRU also have to produce a needs assessment and a strategy so their Needs assessment will be a useful recourse to help partners meet their duty to undertake their own and the VRU have agreed to develop area profiles. This will provide a Kirklees specific profile which will be a head start in having a needs assessment which is required under the new act. The response strategy provides common definitions, visions and ambitions and will also provide a framework for local delivery. CSP is the most natural partnership to take ownership of this at a local level as we can facilitate partners that are having the new duty placed on them.

HB – Shared a presentation giving an overview of violent crime in Kirklees.

The presentation showed the levels of recorded serious violent crime, knife crime, s39 and s47 assaults 2019-21 and plotted this against lockdown periods to demonstrate the impact these have had. HB also shared a case study which demonstrated successful partnership working as well as statistics showing assaults on police officers and staff. The presentation also showed what police are doing to target Serious Violence including Operation Precision which looks at targeting Organised Crime. Also, Operation Jemlock which has delivered 5073 arrests 4896 stop and search encounters and 719 weapon seizures. Kirklees also has a dedicated domestic abuse team and an offender management team which targets repeat offenders and uses both criminal and civil orders.

JR– Asked all to read the Walpole case study provided with the papers of the meeting.

**Questions & Comments:**

EPH – Asked in regard to the case study is there a referral process when alcohol dependency is part of the issue and if so if HB could advise what the level of uptake was for this. HB advised there is a process and that she would provide statistics on take up for EPH.

JR – Charts in the presentation were helpful as they clearly show pent up behaviour due to lockdowns and it is positive that overall figures are down. Although Knife crime is down the actual incidents that are occurring in Kirklees appear to be very serious and are often linked to drugs and organised crime, which suggests we need to invest in young people and comes back to education and inclusion of young people. HB agreed there have been some significant incidents involving machetes, but we now have the opportunity to do work with young people and bring about some reassurance and confidence in communities.

LH – Reminded all that the Serious violence duty has been added to the terms of reference as a statutory function for the Communities Partnership Board. He also explained the approach we are taking to serious violence in Kirklees, we have brought together violence reduction and Program Precision structures and brought these into one where we have gold and silver groups. The silver group has a joint action plan and they have identified 5 key wards based on the needs assessment

and using the SOC profile, however it is felt we need one violence profile. We are then concentrating our efforts in those 5 wards. An example of this is the Walpole case study down which narrowed issues down to a few streets as the data allowed us to do this.

IY - Stop and search can be less controversial when you can show it is being used in a specific area.

JR - Some of the more serious offences are being committed by people from outside of the borough which is why the whole of Yorkshire approach is important. Cllr P agreed that often it can be a national or international chains involved in crimes committed within Kirklees.

**Actions:**

**HB to share PowerPoint presentation to be distributed with the minutes**

**HB to share with EPH the statistics regarding take up of support services when offered to those brought into custody.**

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**Item 8: Any Other Business – All**

WY Mayors Office new Police and Crime plan and overview of recent activity shared for reference.

IY - Mayor wrote to the leader of the Council in January to say that the Community Safety Fund will be passported through to Kirklees this funding will no longer be split but the expectation is that it will be spent in line with the Police and Crime Plan, that is in line with the Kirklees plan so this should not be problematic.

Next meeting to be held in person or hybrid if needed.

Cllr P - Reminded all that the minutes will be made public and should they require any redactions to make this known

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**Close of meeting – Councillor C Pattison**

**THE NEXT MEETING:**

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2022 1:30pm – 3:30pm**