

Community Safety Partnership Sub-Scrutiny Panel Report from Cllr Alexandra Kemp

The Community Safety Partnership Plan “ Safer Norfolk” 2021-24 has now been signed off by all District Councils. This is about the practical way that the police, councils and safeguarding board work together. Partnership work is key to its delivery.

I spoke about the need to focus on neighbourhood crime. Neighbourhood Crime is now a Partnership Priority. The Community Safety Partnership is relaunching the Community Safety Trigger by early 2023. This is a way for communities to call on the key agencies to take a multi-agency approach to unresolved anti-social or criminal issues in their neighbourhood. Awareness needs to be raised among the public and Parish and Town Councils. Accessibility for residents who do not have computers must be there and not just available on the internet.

The Community Plan aims to have strong referral pathways for risk factors for offending, including the Alcohol Partnership, Substance Misuse, Accommodation, Early Help and Mental Health Support.

The Integrated Management Offender Service is being developed with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Criminal Justice Department.

Countering Fraud

The Community Safety Team works closely to adopt a multi-agency standard approach to fraud, and works with the Friends against Scams Partnership. The Panel suggested talks to community groups and leaflets through residents’ letter boxes.

County Lines

Norfolk has a contextual safeguarding and multi-agency approach, with detached youth workers, to prevent and divert young people from County Lines.

The St Giles project to prevent young people engaging with crime, works with primary and secondary schools. This work ended in March, but will continue through Children’s Services. There is also prevention work with the Community Sports Foundation.

Anyone with serious concerns about a child or vulnerable person should contact the County Council on 0344 8008020.

Domestic Abuse

The Partnership manages the Domestic Homicide Review process across Norfolk. The reports can be accessed on the (NCCSP) Norfolk Countywide Community Safety Partnership website.

The Domestic Violence Strategy has launched NIDAS - the Integrated Domestic Abuse Service - so people across Norfolk have access to support services wherever they live.

There is a Perpetrator Sub-Group. Norfolk is piloting Project Cara – the perpetrator is given a conditional caution if the offence is admitted and they agree to attend an awareness course. Academic valuation showed Project Cara is effective. Disruption models are used with repeat offenders. There is always victim safeguarding. Evaluation of the project is ongoing.

Women with no recourse to public funds have been excluded from help – and the panel asked how we reach them. The People from Abroad Team links into domestic violence and helps with accommodation.

The Children Liaison Service in police stations looks at the risk of vulnerabilities like criminal exploitation or domestic abuse when a young person is brought in to a police station, so children are not stigmatised.

The message is that anyone can come forward for help and support.

There is a workplace policy and work with employers, hospital, small businesses, the County Council, ambulances, pharmacies, and posters are put up, in a range of languages, to raise awareness about services that can help people experiencing domestic abuse.

The Prevent Duty

The Prevent Duty now includes the Hate Crime agenda.

There is a Prevent Risk Review and Assessment to evaluate the Prevent Programme. There is a new Prevent Radicalisation Officer working with schools.

There is a stop Hate in Norfolk initiative for third-party reporting of hate crime. The hate crime initiative needs to be refreshed.

Project Adder

As a result of its success, Project Adder is being rolled out from Norwich to other parts of Norfolk. In the last year, there has been a noted decrease in County Lines activity. The police working in Project Adder are now trained and equipped to use Naloxone. The Housing Associations are included in the work with Project Adder, and in work combatting Modern Slavery.