

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Neighbourhoods and Community Services Scrutiny Panel

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PART I **FOR COMMENT AND CONSIDERATION**

SAFER SLOUGH PARTNERSHIP – UPDATE

1. **Purpose of Report**

To update members on the work and focus of the Safer Slough Partnership.

2. **Recommendations**

The Committee is requested to note the report.

3. **The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan**

The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy (SJWS) is the document that details the priorities agreed for Slough with partner organisations. The SJWS has been developed using a comprehensive evidence base that includes the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA).

3a. **Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities**

Central to discharging its responsibility, the Board through regular performance management reports, ensures that the vision and objectives of the Strategy are delivered through the priority actions being led on by each Priority Delivery Group (PDG) such as those described in detail below.

The Safer Slough Partnership (SSP) seeks to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime. It seeks to reduce the harm that drugs and alcohol cause to individuals, families and the wider community and create a safer and cleaner environment for all those who live, work, learn, visit and invest in Slough.

Therefore the SSP meets the following priorities:

- Health
- Regeneration and Environment
- Safer Slough

3b. **Five Year Plan Outcomes**

The Safer Slough Partnership supports the Council's Five Year Plan, against the following outcomes:

- *Out come 1 - Slough children will grow up to be happy, healthy and successful*
- *Outcome 3 - Slough will be an attractive place where people choose to live, work and stay*
- *Outcome 4 - Our residents will live in good quality homes*
- *Outcome 5 - Slough will attract, retain and grow businesses and investment to provide opportunities for our residents*

4. **Other Implications**

a) Financial

There are no financial implications arising from this report

b) Risk Management

There are no human rights or other legal implications arising from this report.

c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

There are no human rights or other legal implications arising from this report.

d) Equalities Impact Assessment

Feedback and close monitoring of data would be analysed according to SBC equalities monitoring categories, thereby enabling any differential impact on particular groups to be identified.

5. **Supporting Information**

5.1 The Safer Slough Partnership (SSP) is Slough's community safety partnership, which seeks to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and fear of crime. The SSP is accountable for compliance with the statutory responsibilities set out in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

5.2 The purpose of the Partnership is to provide a strategic and co-operative approach for addressing local crime and anti-social behaviour within the Borough. The SSP is chaired by the co-chaired by Chief Executive, Jose Wragg and the Police Borough Commander, Sarah Grahame along with representatives from statutory and community partners.

5.3 It is important to note that as the Local Authority whilst we can't control all crime and perceptions of crime, we can use our influence at the SSP to monitor, review and help shift partners toward collaborative interventions based on known risks in Slough and to develop sustainable solutions that stem from evidence and a foundation of research.

5.4 The SSP is focused to ensure that it has the capabilities, skills and mechanisms to oversee the work of the statutory and non-statutory agencies represented at the Partnership. Over the last 12 months, the SSP has focused on providing

support and coordination of a multi-agency response to crime and disorder and how we can influence change through early intervention.

- 5.5 On our last visit to this panel on the 26th June 17, we spoke about our new one page strategy. This strategy under pins the focus of the board, sub-groups and supports corporate strategies (for example our Five Year Plan and the TVP Policing plan). The SSP strategic goals have been developed around two core themes. These two themes are strategic and therefore do not specify in detail the operational objectives, but underpin the focus of the priority groups sitting under the SSP (see appendix A).
- 5.6 A fundamental element of the SSP strategy is the brand – including communication and conversation with residents, service users, and key front line professionals. An important part of a brand is the logo. The original SSP logo was developed in 1998, when the partnership was launched. While the logo has served the partnership well over the years, it was long over due for a refresh, not only to bring the image up to date, but to have a logo capable of higher levels of definition. This development was achieved in house by using our Council coms team and graphic designer, saving the partnership money and creating an image that suits Slough. The new SSP logo and website was launched on the 30th January 2019,



- <http://www.slough.gov.uk/council/strategies-plans-and-policies/safer-slough-partnership.aspx>
- <https://www.sloughobserver.co.uk/news/17396519.the-safer-slough-partnership-appoint-new-joint-chair-people/>

5.7 The SSP is currently focused on the following areas of focus,

- Youth and Gang Violence
- Violence Against Women and Girls + (Boys and Men) - VAWG
- Modern Slavery and Exploitation
- Complex and Chaotic
- Cyber Crime
- Child Sexual Exploitation

While the partnership is focused on the priorities listed above, there are areas of concern that require monitoring - Emerging Risks

- Design and Development of Slough (including the focus on the Town Centre)
- Acquisitive Crime and Drug use

Cross cutting programmes/activities

- Choices Project
- Face to face and semi-structured interviews

6.0 Key successes 2018/19

6.1 Choices Programme

The Choices programme is in the third year of delivery in Slough. This innovative programme was developed from research carried out in 2016 into CSE in Slough. The research identified that young people are facing a complex and ever-changing world, in which risks are abundant and threats are constant (digital age with 24/7 connectivity). The response to this vulnerability is to increase the ability of young people to cope with these challenges – support them becoming more resilient. The research identified that this vulnerability showed up in victims of exploitation, gangs and CSE and was visible in victims of violence. The choices and decisions young people make, can lead them down a destructive path; they can lack the tools needed to help them make the right choice.

6.2 Working with Lime, The SSP has developed a unique programme that is delivered in Schools (Primary and Secondary) and is co-produced with young people in Slough.

6.3 Year 5 rollout – the programme is open for all schools in Slough with 21 out of 30 primary schools already signed up to deliver the programme – figure 1 shows the number of young people engaged with the programme over the implementation period. We have set up a project twitter account where professionals can share their views, comments and stories about the programme - @choiceslime. Please follow the programme on Twitter

YEAR	Young people engaged					NOTES
	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Year 8	TOTAL	
YE2018	240	30	0	0	270	Year 5 resource complete and piloted. Increased requirement at primary phase and longer, more linear development timescale pushed secondary school development budget into year 2, resulting in a surplus at the year end.
YE2019	1800	240	30	0	2070	Year 5 resource implemented in 20 schools. Year 6 resource complete. Year 7 resource piloted in summer term. Year 8 resource under development.
YE2020	2700	2700	3500	3500	12400	Year 5 resource embedded in all schools. Year 6 and 7 resources fully implemented. Year 8 resource piloted and implemented.

Figure 1

6.4 **Serious Violence** - the Safer Slough Partnership has adopted the Home Office Serious Violence Strategy. There are some, fundamental, benefits of adopting rather than creating our own high level strategy. The first being the time it takes to scope, develop and sign-off a multi-agency strategy – this can be an intensive process that produces a very similar product to the National Strategy. The second is that in order to maximise the national, regional and local resources we need to be aligned with these high level strategies. A challenge to this adoption is that the National strategy may cover areas that are not relevant to our locality.

6.5 The SSP has developed a simple solution by producing a one page strategy (see appendix b). The one page strategy pulls highlights from the National Strategy, the local problem profile into a local response. Through this one page strategy,

we can demonstrate a link to the National Strategy while highlighting our local profile and create our local response.

- 6.6 The partnership is currently conducting a multi-agency gap analysis of our response to gangs and serious violence. We are mapping our local offer, so we can identify gaps and work with agencies to provide better outcomes for all. This feeds into the Thames Valley Wide gangs funding discussed below.
- 6.7 **Violence Against Women and Girls group (VAWG)** – has continued to focus on Domestic Abuse, FGM, Forced Marriage and Honour Based Violence. This group draws together the DA Strategic group, operational deliver group and the FGM LSCB sub group. In the last year this group has,
- Worked with an organisation called Family Links to deliver 3 parenting programmes at Mosque Masjid Al Jannah and Stoke Poges Lane Mosque. The programme, originally developed in Sough, was delivered in Urdu and English. This programme delivered domestic violence awareness training to 60 women and 3 parenting programmes, engaging 24 mothers and 8 fathers.
 - We continue to develop the Domestic Abuse Network of key professionals to enable them to support colleagues support victims.
 - Funded by Office of the Police Crime Commissioner, we have worked with Slough Community Mental Health Team to develop a response to those who need counselling support following trauma. The project called BRAVE, is being delivered across East Berkshire and provides one to one and group support to men and women who have suffered trauma following Domestic Abuse.
 - Carried out semi-structured interviews with professionals working with victims and survivors and perpetrators
 - Training staff to carryout risk assessments and knowledge of the VAWG+ agenda
- 6.8 **Modern Slavery and Exploitation group** – this group has helped to deliver multi-agency training to ensure that frontline professionals know the signs of modern slavery and exploitation.
- 6.9 Last autumn the SSP launched the start of a series of media campaigns focused on raising public awareness in Slough. The campaign consisted of a range of internal and external advertising (mobile media), digital media through twitter and facebook. (See figure 2 posters in three languages English, Polish and Romanian)

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Figure2

- 6.10 To monitor success, we were supported by the Modern Slavery Helpline, who agreed to monitor calls and report on calls received. It is important to note that we are still analysing the information, but we can report some high level figures. For the duration of the campaign we had a 400% increase in calls to the Modern Slavery helpline from Slough. While the percentage increase is high, the numbers are still relatively low. The campaign has demonstrated that a media campaign can increase public awareness and help us understand the threat, harm and risk for Slough. In the meantime, we are still analysing the data and will be reporting the results at the March SSP meeting.
- 6.11 Complex and Chaotic – this area of work is focused on those in Slough who suffer from multiple-disadvantages. The SSP, Thames Valley Police and the High Sheriff of Berkshire commissioned Browns to deliver an intervention project to a cohort of 12. The project aims to offer support to hard-to-engage clients who are struggling with various complex issues. The project offers bespoke emotional support and practical advice to help the client gain control over their life, manage and overcome areas that they are struggling in and learn to develop their knowledge, confidence and resilience. For the first 9 months of the service, the project cost £42,000 and to date the project has saved the public sector £96,439 (these costs are taken from various cost analysis documents).
- 6.12 Child Sexual Exploitation and gangs – the SSP, Thames Valley Police and the Office of the Police Commissioner commissioned Reach Every Generation to run a Summer Camp in August 2018. For two weeks, 20 young people took part in a programme designed to challenge bad behaviour and build trust. A similar project has happened during February half term.
- 6.13 We have worked with the Office of the Police Crime Commissioner and have been successful in securing Home Office funding of £800,000 for a Thames

Valley Wide gangs project. The commissioning of this work is, currently underway – more information to follow.

6.14 This project utilised drama performances to teach young people about Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) who in turn could educate their parents/carers about the risks young people face in Slough today. We aimed to:

- Raise awareness in parents and address the lack of local services for them on this agenda.
- Allow students to learn about local risks that affect their age group and educate their parents to be empowered and protective towards their children by gaining a deeper understanding of the risks they face locally.
- To show our national support of a local & national priority in tackling CSE.
- To prevent CSE in young people by raising their awareness levels and confidence in reporting and asking for support.
- To support schools in safeguarding students

6.15 To summarise, this project has run exceedingly well, with students from all over Slough engaging with the topics of Healthy Relationships and CSE and taking ownership of the narratives through performance and presentation. The work created will have a lasting impact, as performances have been recorded and shared, and the work has led to the creation of Ambassadors in schools. There is scope for improvement in terms of engaging parents and carers; however this project has begun to lay the groundwork for open communication between the Council, young people, schools and parents.

7. **Conclusion**

One of the benefits of the SSP is the ability to look across Slough and identify vulnerability and design a partnership response. This allows agencies to focus on the business as usual, while the SSP can test ideas and theories. The Choices programme, inter-faith project, CSE awareness raising in schools and targeted work with young people at risk of gang involvement are good examples of the partnership pooling funding, working together and testing, innovative ideas to some of our difficult and complex issues.

8. **Appendices Attached**

A - Safer Slough Partnership Strategy

B - Serious Violence Strategy

9. **Background Papers**

None