

# Community Safety Scrutiny Committee

## Agenda

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**Date:** Thursday, 14th February, 2013  
**Time:** 10.30 am  
**Venue:** Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields, Middlewich Road,  
Sandbach CW11 1HZ

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The agenda is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and at the foot of each report.

### **PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT**

1. **Apologies for Absence**

To receive any apologies for absence

2. **Declarations of Interest**

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in any item on the agenda.

3. **Whipping Declarations**

To provide an opportunity for Members to declare the existence of a party whip in relation to any item on the agenda.

4. **Notes of the Informal Meeting held on 17 January 2013** (Pages 1 - 6)

To give consideration to the notes of the informal meeting held on 17 January 2013

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For requests for further information

**Contact:** Katie Smith

**Tel:** 01270 686465

**E-Mail:** [katie.smith@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:katie.smith@cheshireeast.gov.uk) with any apologies

5. **Probation Service**

To receive a presentation by a representative of the Probation Service

6. **Draft Protocol with Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (Safer Cheshire East Partnership)** (Pages 7 - 10)

To give consideration to the draft protocol

7. **Safer Cheshire East Partnership - Priorities and Performance** (Pages 11 - 32)

To receive a report on the work of the Safer Cheshire East Partnership

8. **CCTV and Anti Social Behaviour - Budgets and Performance** (Pages 33 - 50)

To receive a briefing on the 2013/14 budgets and relevant performance information for the Council's CCTV Camera network and Anti-Social Behaviour Team.

**Community Safety Scrutiny Committee Workshop**  
**Thursday 17 January 2013 10:30**  
**Committee Suites 1+2 Westfields**

**Present**

Cllrs: H Murray (Chairman), C Andrew, M Grant, A Barrett and M Parsons

Officers: J Morley and M Nedderman

**Absent**

Cllrs: G Merry and P Nurse

The Committee met informally to discuss how the new committee would operate and what it would focus on in terms of ways of working, relationships and outputs.

The Chairman led the workshop and began by asking the group to define what scrutiny was (and what it wasn't) and what the purpose of the committee would be.

**Scrutiny was:**

- For the public
- In-depth analysis of the whole
- Challenging the executive (robust challenge)
- Seeking the truth
- Finding reasons for performance/outcomes
- Identify best practice/endorse good performance

In summary the group described the purpose of the committee as – “to seek the truth for the public good”.

**Scrutiny wasn't:**

- policy making (however it could inform policy development)
- party political
- about making statements
- discussion of individual issues or ward based pleading
- simply adversarial or confrontational

**Powers of the Committee**

The Community Safety Scrutiny Committee was designated as the Council's Crime and Disorder (C&D) Committee under the Police and Justice Act 2006. Section 19 of the 2006 Act set out the requirements for local authority scrutiny of crime and disorder matters. The powers and responsibilities of a C&D Committee were:

- power to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions;
- power to make reports or recommendations to the local authority with respect to the discharge of those functions.
- must provide a copy of any report or recommendations it makes to each of the responsible authorities, and to each of the persons with

whom, and bodies with which, the responsible authorities have a duty to co-operate under section 5(2) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (“the co-operating persons and bodies”).

- where a councillor is asked to consider a local crime and disorder matter by a person who lives or works in the area that the councillor represents the councillor may refer the matter to the crime and disorder committee. (Councillor Call for Action [CCfA])
- the crime and disorder committee shall consider any local crime and disorder matter referred to it by a member of the council and may make a report or recommendations to the local authority with respect to it.
- an authority, person or body to which a copy of a report or recommendations is provided shall consider the report or recommendations; respond to the crime and disorder committee indicating what (if any) action it proposes to take; and have regard to the report or recommendations in exercising its functions.
- In the case of a local authority operating executive arrangements the crime and disorder committee is to be an overview and scrutiny committee of the authority

In addition to the legislation the Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009 (CDR 2009) contained the following elements.

- C&D Committee may co-opt representatives of CDRP partners as non-voting members of the committee
- Information must be provided to committees by the date indicated or “as soon as reasonably possible”.
- Attendance of an officer/employee of a responsible authority can be required (but reasonable notice must be given).
- Responses to reports/recommendations of the committee must be made in writing and within 28 days.

As an Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the Council the Committee also had general scrutiny powers provided in the Local Government Act 2000 and the Localism Act 2011. The 2011 Act amended the 2000 Act adding sections relating to scrutiny contained in the new Part 1A section 9F of the 2000 Act. The powers of overview and scrutiny committees included:

- to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge of any functions which are the responsibility of the executive,
- to make reports or recommendations to the authority or the executive with respect to the discharge of any functions which are the responsibility of the executive,
- to review or scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge of any functions which are not the responsibility of the executive,
- to make reports or recommendations to the authority or the executive with respect to the discharge of any functions which are not the responsibility of the executive,

- to make reports or recommendations to the authority or the executive on matters which affect the authority's area or the inhabitants of that area,
- the power to review or scrutinise a decision made but not implemented includes power to recommend that the decision be reconsidered by the person who made it.
- An overview and scrutiny committee of a local authority or a sub-committee of such a committee—
  - may require members of the executive, and officers of the authority, to attend before it to answer questions,
  - may require any other member of the authority to attend before it to answer questions relating to any function which is exercisable by the member by virtue of section 236 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (exercise of functions by local councillors in England), and
  - may invite other persons to attend meetings of the committee.
- It is the duty of any member or officer mentioned above to comply with any requirement mentioned.

### **What is Community Safety?**

Community Safety covered the Council's responsibilities in relation to Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership. The role of the Community Safety Scrutiny Committee was to monitor the Borough's Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP), known as the Safer Cheshire East Partnership, and the responsible authorities that made up the partnership. These partners included:

- the Police,
- Fire and Rescue,
- Care Commissioning Group (Formerly Primary Care Trust [PCT]),
- Public Health
- The Council

Examples of issues which the CDRP was responsible for included:

- Antisocial Behaviour
- Domestic Abuse
- Road Safety
- Probation Service

The Community Safety Scrutiny Committee would also be responsible for monitoring:

- Flood Risk Management (under section 21F of LGA 2000)
- CCTV
- Emergency Planning

### **Ways of Working**

The Committee discussed how it would operate. There were a variety of methods open to it which would need to be used in the correct way to ensure time and resources were used effectively. Timeliness of work was key to the effectiveness of the Committee's work; it was important that reviews and investigation did not take too long and become out of date however it was equally important that work wasn't rushed resulting in poor quality. The

appropriateness of work was also a factor in its effectiveness; carrying out a review or making recommendations on issues that are significant at the time would ensure resources were being used in an effective way. The following ways of working would be used to carry out the functions of the Committee:

- Attendance Request Forms – the Committee would issue a formal request to any witness that they required to attend a meeting or provide evidence. This request form would state clearly the intentions of the Committee and what was required from the witness. It was hoped that this would ensure that the required information was provided, and prepare witnesses for their interaction with the Committee. The Committee wanted to avoid the perception that the Committee was adversarial.
- Briefings – to set the scene and provide initial evidence/consider whether further investigation is required
- Desktop Exercises – online research, evidence gathering and analysis of information
- Inquiries – select committee approach rather than task and finish groups
- Site Visits – to help the committee understanding, improve relationships with partners and increase visibility in public
- Member specialisation – each member of the committee to develop knowledge of particular areas of the remit to improve the committees collective expertise
- Reporting Back – update on performance/impact of changes made/further work may be required

These ways of working would be integrated in a cyclical process to allow in-depth analysis and evaluation as well as continuous monitoring and challenge. Most of the briefings, inquiry and reporting back will take place at the Committee's public meetings however informal briefings and site visits may need to take place outside of these meetings. The Committee would need to elicit as much information as it could through the use of good questioning techniques and subsequently debate and discuss the issue separately.

### **Relationships**

To carry out its work the Committee would need to develop strong relationships with:

- The CDRP (Safer Cheshire East Partnership) – Police, Fire and Rescue etc.
- The Cabinet as a whole – not just the Communities Portfolio Holder
- The Officers
- The public and local communities
- The Police and Crime Panel (PCP)
- Volunteer Groups and Charities

By developing strong relationships with these partners the Committee will benefit from the shared knowledge and cooperation of the collective to conduct through reviews and develop recommendations that are acceptable and relevant to those who will be required to implement them.

### **Protocol with CDRP**

The Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee as the predecessor committee agreed a protocol with the Safer Cheshire East Partnership which set out the relationship with agreed lines of cooperation and responsibility. The Committee agreed that it would be appropriate to adopt a similar protocol between it and the partnership. Officers were asked to draft a protocol for the Committee to consider at its next meeting.

### **Outputs**

Through its ways of working the Committee would produce a variety of outcomes that would hopefully improve performance of the Council and partners. Possible outputs of the Committee were:

- Identification of issues – highlight problem areas for officers/partners to improve
- Advice to cabinet/portfolio holder – e.g. propose that further investigation be carried out or change of approach may be needed
- Endorsement of a service – highlight the good work of a department/partner and promote continuity/expansion of service
- Formal Recommendations – Written recommendations sent to Cabinet/Chief Executive/Council/Responsible Authority. (The Committee would be entitled to a response/acknowledgement within 28 days)

### **Meetings**

The Chairman outlined how he would like meetings and work to be conducted.

- Public meeting of the Committee should take place at 10:30 and be held in the Committee Suites 1 and 2 at Westfields.
- The room would be laid out in a horse shoe with witnesses sat opposite the Committee with a gallery behind them and to the sides.
- Visiting Members may be given time at the beginning of each item to make representations but not to take part in the subsequent discussion/decision.
- If a pre-meeting briefing was required for the Committee it would take place at 10:30 on the day of the meeting and the meeting would start at a later time that morning. This would be agreed by the Committee in advance and proper notice of the revised start time for the public meeting would be given.

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## **Draft Protocol between the Community Safety Scrutiny Committee and the Safer Cheshire East Partnership.**

### **Introduction**

1. In accordance with Part 3 of the Police and Justice Act 2006, local authorities have the power to scrutinise the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (Safer Cheshire East Partnership) in their area and make reports and recommendations to the Local Authority and the Partnership. In Cheshire East this role is carried out by the Community Safety Scrutiny Committee, which has been designated the 'Crime and Disorder Committee' under Paragraph 1, Section 19 Part 3 of the Act.
2. This protocol has been jointly agreed by the Community Safety Scrutiny Committee, and the respective partners comprising the Safer Cheshire East Partnership, to provide a framework for that scrutiny to take place. The publication of Regulations and good working practice has shaped this protocol which may be revised by agreement between all the interested parties in order to continually improve the scrutiny process.

### **Principles of the Scrutiny Function**

1. Scrutiny in Cheshire East is positive, objective and constructive. It acknowledges good practice and recommends improvements where it feels that these would be of benefit. Scrutiny concentrates on service outcomes and seeks to add value to each service it considers.
2. Community safety and freedom from crime and disorder for the people of Cheshire East is dependant upon many factors including the services provided in collaboration with Partners in the Safer Cheshire East Partnership. This shared responsibility will be acknowledged by scrutiny and will feature in Scrutiny Reviews.
3. Scrutiny of the reduction of crime and disorder will only be truly successful if key organisations work together in an atmosphere of mutual respect and trust with an understanding and commitment to its aims.
4. The key organisations involved in scrutiny of crime and disorder must be willing to share information, knowledge and reports which relate to the delivery and success of service in Cheshire East and carry out duties that would be reasonably expected of them to enable crime and disorder scrutiny to be successfully undertaken.
5. At all times both officers and members of the organisation involved in crime and disorder scrutiny, representatives and members of the public will be treated with respect and courtesy. Matters of confidentiality will be treated with respect.

6. Crime and disorder scrutiny will be open and transparent. Any person involved in crime and disorder scrutiny will always declare any personal or other interests that they have either in a scrutiny exercise or during a meeting of the committee.
7. The Community Safety Scrutiny Committee, whilst working in partnership, is independent of the respective partners comprising the Safer Cheshire East Partnership.
8. Scrutiny of crime and disorder will try to maximise the involvement of the community and will work with other agencies representing the public.

### **Community Safety Scrutiny Committee**

1. The Safer Cheshire East Partnership will be consulted on the annual work programme and informed in advance of scrutiny exercises that the Community Safety Scrutiny Committee is intending to undertake.
2. The Partnership will also be informed of the scope of scrutiny exercises and will be given adequate notice of invitations to attend meetings of the Committee or Task and Finish Groups and of any required information.
3. The Safer Cheshire East Partnership will be consulted on any draft Scrutiny reports relating to crime and disorder matters before they are published. The final reports will be published on the Council's website and circulated as appropriate.
4. Crime and disorder scrutiny will not be used as a complaints process.
5. The Community Safety Scrutiny Committee will at all times comply with the Council's Constitution.

### **Safer Cheshire East Partnership**

1. The Safer Cheshire East Partnership will work in partnership with the Sustainable Committee Scrutiny Committee to provide objective and efficient scrutiny of crime of disorder.
2. The Safer Cheshire East Partnership will provide information relating to the planning and operation of crime and disorder reduction activities and strategies that is required by the Community Safety Scrutiny Committee so that it can undertake its required scrutiny reviews. This will not however include confidential information that might impinge upon actual police operations or individuals, unless an individual gives consent for such information to be released.

3. The Safer Cheshire East Partnership will provide the Community Safety Scrutiny Committee with such information within 15 working days of receipt of the request.
4. The Safer Cheshire East Partnership will respond to crime and disorder scrutiny reviews within 15 working days of receipt, or if this is not reasonably possible as soon as possible.
5. The Community Safety Manager will be the main contact person for crime and disorder and will maintain regular contact with the Community Safety scrutiny Committee.
6. The Safer Cheshire East Partnership will ensure that officers attending the Scrutiny Committee meetings are of appropriate seniority to be able to answer questions openly.

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## **CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL**

### **REPORT TO: Community Safety Scrutiny Committee**

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<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> February 2013
<b>Report of:</b>	Head of Community Services
<b>Subject/Title:</b>	Safer Cheshire East Partnership – Priorities & Performance
<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	Cllr Les Gilbert

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#### **1.0 Report Summary**

- 1.1 This report seeks to brief Members on the work of the Safer Cheshire East Partnership.

#### **2.0 Recommendation**

- 2.1 Members are asked to comment on the report.

#### **3.0 Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 To inform Scrutiny Members of the priorities and performance of the Safer Cheshire East Partnership.

#### **4.0 Wards Affected**

- 4.1 All Wards

#### **5.0 Local Ward Members**

- 5.1 All Ward Members

#### **6.0 Policy Implications including - Climate Change - Health**

- 6.1 Feeling safe and being safe in our homes, town centres and communities are important factors affecting peoples' general health and wellbeing.

#### **7.0 Financial Implications**

- 7.1 None outside existing budgetary provision for 2013/2014

#### **8.0 Legal implications (authorised by the Borough Solicitor)**

- 8.1 None subject to the views of Scrutiny Members

## **9.0 Risk Management**

- 9.1 Key risk for the Community Safety Partnership and statutory agencies relate to reputational issues should performance be poor and interventions not co-ordinated. Cheshire East is a safe place to live and this attracts people to live and work in the Borough, encouraging growth and prosperity. If the Partnership is unsuccessful in reducing crime and disorder, the perception of Cheshire East would discourage such investment.

## **10.0 Background**

- 10.1 The Safer Cheshire East Partnership was established in April 2009 merging the three former district Council bodies. It is a statutory partnership under the Crime & Disorder Act 1998 made up of representatives from the police and police authority, the local council, and the fire, health and probation services (the 'responsible authorities').
- 10.2 The Partnership has historically enjoyed significant grant funding from The Home Office for both capital and revenue investment. This has steadily reduced in recent years and the remaining £147,000 grant will be paid directly to the new Police & Crime Commissioner from April 2013 for his office to commission community safety interventions directly.
- 10.3 It will be important for the Safer Cheshire East Partnership to establish a positive working relationship with the Police and Crime Commissioner to ensure effective whole system commissioning for the benefit of our residents. Active engagement and partnership working both locally and sub regionally will provide the best opportunity to tackle the root causes of crime which inevitably impact of the health and wellbeing of both perpetrators and victims.
- 10.4 The *Safer Cheshire East Partnership* (SCEP) became aware of the emerging impact / changes from the Police Reform Act before Christmas 2010 and made significant changes to respond to this legislation.

These included;

- Evaluation of Safer Cheshire East Partnership (SCEP) arrangements and commissioning activity.
- Streamlined and rationalised existing partnership structures and meetings. Greater emphasis on tactical delivery through 'tasking & co-ordination' and problem solving. (Connecting with LAP's).
- Renewed SCEP priorities in April 2012 through Crime & Disorder Strategic Assessment. (Evidence-base to ensure targeted investment and action).

- Engaged with sub-regional Community Safety & Justice Commission looking at opportunities for delivery on a 'Constabulary footprint', share best practice and simplify governance, administration and performance management arrangements. This work is likely to be reinvigorated through the Commissioner and the 'Public Service Review' work.
- Clarified legacy Home Office Grant funding arrangements (anticipating the transfer to P&CC from April 2013) and managed the reduction in grant since April 2011 to existing activity.
- Prepared a Business Report for the Cheshire East area to showcase our local work, performance and priorities.

SCEP will continue to work with the P&CC by:

- Further review of our existing partnership arrangements and 'fit' with emerging P&CC / P&CP structures, roles and responsibilities.
- Clarifying the impact of grant transfers from April 2013 as Home Office finalises the range of grants to be included
- Formally invite P&CC (or their representative) to sit on SCEP Board
- Ensure P&CC understands Cheshire East communities and priorities for community safety by responding on Police & Crime Plan
- Continue our sub-regional involvement to ensure Cheshire East plays its part in future force-wide initiatives and receives its fair share of resources, investment and improved outcomes.

10.4 Safer Cheshire East Partnership priorities, based on the Strategic Assessment of Crime & Disorder within the Borough are;

- Reducing anti-social behaviour and crime and disorder across Cheshire East
- Reducing the fear of crime and engage with our communities
- Reducing the number of offenders committing more crime
- Keeping our roads safe
- Reducing domestic violence and other violence offences happening within our homes, within our neighbourhoods and within our towns
- Protecting vulnerable people/families and locations across Cheshire East

10.5 A copy of the recent Business Report is attached at Appendix One and provides performance information and details of partnership interventions against these priorities.

Appendix One: Safer Cheshire East Business Report – October 2012

## **11.0 Access to Information**

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

Name: Peter Hartwell  
Designation: Head of Community Services  
Tel No: 01270 686639  
Email: [peter.hartwell@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:peter.hartwell@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

**Business Report from Safer Cheshire East Partnership**



**October 2012**

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## About Cheshire East

Cheshire East is the third largest unitary authority in the North West and has around 363,000 residents. The 2011 census shows that there are 159,400 occupied households within Cheshire East and 166,100 properties on the council tax register, demonstrating a high number of empty properties within the area. Our neighbours include North Staffordshire, Manchester, Cheshire West & Chester, Stockport and Warrington.

First impressions of Cheshire East are often of leafy lanes and wealthy households. Indeed as an area we host 5% of the North West workforce and 7.5% of North West businesses are based here. This can hide the reality that it is a diverse area with many differences in income, employment and health. Figures that really show this include the life expectancy across the area and in parts of Macclesfield the average life expectancy for a woman is 94, but in areas of Crewe it is 77, a huge difference of 17 years.

Household income also differs, ranging from £65,000 in parts of Macclesfield to £18,000 in parts of Crewe, however the average household income in Cheshire East is £32,600 compared to £28,400 for the UK. The average income for full time employees within Cheshire East, as of April 2011 is £26,693, compared to £21,326 in the UK and £19,958 in the North West of England.



## Brief History of Safer Cheshire East Partnership

The Safer Cheshire East Partnership (SCEP) was formed in April 2009 as a result of the Local Government Review in Cheshire. Previous to this date, the area of Cheshire East had 3 safer partnerships called Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) and these were geographically based around the old borough boundaries of Macclesfield, Congleton and Crewe & Nantwich. Whilst the existence of the partnership is prescribed in law through the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and again through the Police and Social Responsibility Act 2010, the partnership provides an opportunity to work with the local communities to identify local issues and areas of concern.

The Safer Cheshire East Partnership is committed to ensuring that Cheshire East is a safe place to live, visit and work. The purpose of the partnership is to work closely and co-operatively with local communities, partner agencies and local groups to reduce crime and the fear of crime and anti social behaviour, target offenders and protect vulnerable people within the community and also to keep people safe on the roads of Cheshire East.

The Safer Cheshire East Partnership links with in several strategic boards such as

- Health and Wellbeing Board
- Local Adults Safeguarding Board
- Local Children's Safeguarding Board
- Children's Trust

## Membership of Safer Cheshire East Partnership

<b>Councillor Les Gilbert (chair)</b>	<b>Cheshire East Council</b>
<b>Area Commander Mick Garrihy (vice chair)</b>	<b>Cheshire Constabulary</b>
<b>Stephen Pickup</b>	<b>Cheshire Police Authority</b>
<b>Councillor Peter Nurse</b>	<b>Cheshire Police Authority</b>
<b>Simon Gibbins</b>	<b>Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service</b>
<b>Sandra Link</b>	<b>Cheshire Probation Trust</b>
<b>Judith Gibson</b>	<b>Cheshire East Domestic Abuse Partnership</b>
<b>Lorraine Guy</b>	<b>Cheshire Drug and Alcohol Team</b>
<b>Rob Allen</b>	<b>Wulvern Housing</b>
<b>Penny Kay</b>	<b>Cheshire Youth Offending Service</b>
<b>Neil Ellwood</b>	<b>PCC Commissioning Manager</b>
<b>Peter Hartwell</b>	<b>Cheshire East Council</b>
<b>Abigail Webb</b>	<b>Cheshire East Council</b>
<b>Heather Grimbaldeston</b>	<b>Public Health</b>

Over the last 3 years, there have been significant developments in relation to partnership working such as co-location of multi agency teams. There is a multi-agency Navigate Team consisting of Police, Probation and housing staff working together within the same location, sharing some resources and funding to support the work of project. More recently, the Cheshire East Community Safety Team and Anti Social Behaviour Team

have re-located to the Cheshire Police Partnership Unit. This has allowed for closer working in relation to sharing information, resources and deployment to staff.

## **The Partnership is committed to**

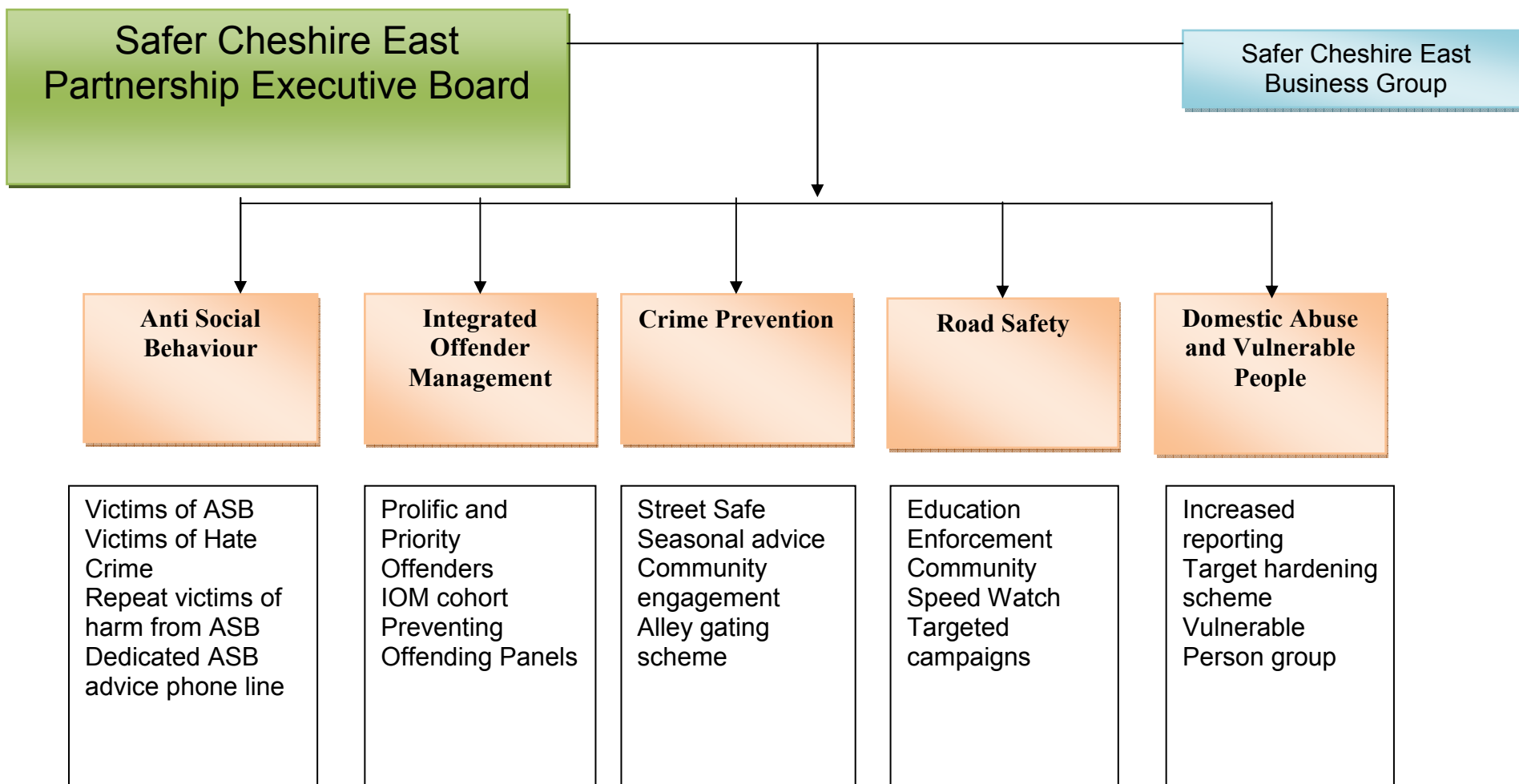
- Reducing anti social behaviour and crime and disorder across Cheshire East
- Reducing the fear of crime and engage with our communities
- Reducing the number of offenders committing more crime
- Keeping our roads safe
- Reducing domestic violence and other violence offences happening within our homes, within our neighbourhoods and within our towns
- Protecting vulnerable people/families and locations across Cheshire East

## **Safer Cheshire East Partnership Responsibilities**

- Appropriate representation at the Safer Cheshire East Partnership meetings
- Provide a three year rolling annual strategic assessment
- Facilitate Domestic Homicide Reviews when appropriate
- Attend scrutiny committees to review performance and processes of partnership

## **What the partnership has achieved in 2011-2012**

- 1,000 less crimes committed across Cheshire East
- 12% reduction in serious acquisitive crime
- 13% reduction in burglary dwelling
- 13% reduction in vehicle crime
- 5% reduction in anti social behaviour incidents
- 77% reduction in offending rates in prolific and priority offenders and 83% reduction in repeat offending rates
- Safeguarded 424 high risk adults with 555 children through Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferencing and reduced MARAC repeats by 12%



## **Safer Cheshire East Partnership Priorities**

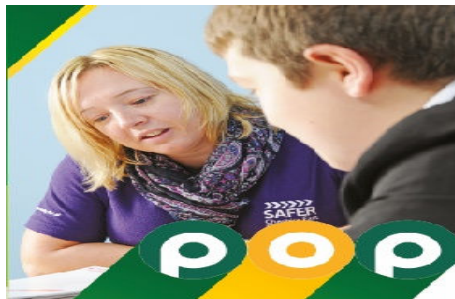
### **Anti Social Behaviour**

Anti Social Behaviour is a real issue for many people living and working within Cheshire East. Overall the anti social behaviour figures are generally quite low compared to other areas however there are specific locations where anti social behaviour is particular high. The Anti Social Behaviour team are working closely with the police and other key agencies to reduce incidents and the key areas of work are:

- Reduce the incidents of ASB
- Reduce repeat locations of ASB
- Reduce repeat callers and victims of ASB
- To establish ARC Angel with Cheshire East to reduce alcohol related violence and ASB
- To case manage individuals at risk in Cheshire East
- To identify licensed premises with high incident of ASB and work with them and partners to take positive action to reduce incidents.

Over the last two years, the Anti Social Behaviour team have used a mediation service which has proved invaluable in relation to early intervention. The Mediation Scheme was funded by a one off Home Office Grant in 2010 and the scheme will continue until March 2013. In the cases where mediation has been used, there has been a drop of 73% (a reduction of 50) in the number of incidents reported to the police.

The 'yellow card' process in relation to dealing with young people and anti social behaviour has been in place for a number of years and has demonstrated a good success rate. During 2011-2012, the Anti Social Behaviour Team received 1,375 yellow cards of details of young people acting anti socially, of these 1,273 warning letters were sent out to parents and guardians of the young people detailing their behaviour. Only 25% of cases were issued with a second warning letter and of all the incidents reported through the yellow card process, only 5.3% of cases proceeded onto Acceptable Behaviour Contracts and no ASBOs have been issued to young people in the Cheshire East area since March 2010. In 2011-12, there has been a reduction of 5% of ASB incidents compared with the previous year.



**'POP'** is a brand name of the Cheshire East "Preventing Offending Panel". There are currently two panels running within the Cheshire East area. POP North (covering Macclesfield, Wilmslow, Knutsford and Congleton) and POP South (covering Crewe, Nantwich, Middlewich, Holmes Chapel, Sandbach and Alsager). These panels meet on

a monthly basis whose aims are via a multi-agency approach to prevent and tackle anti-social and offending behaviour that is displayed by young people under the age of 18 within the Cheshire East area. Versions of the POP have been running in Cheshire East areas since 2003.

There are four main priorities of the panel;

- 1) To prevent young people referred to the POP from becoming involved in further acts of Anti-Social and offending Behaviour.
- 2) To reduce the risk factors and increase the positive factors which relate to offending behaviour.
- 3) To ensure that an education provision is available to young people at risk of offending and Anti-Social Behaviour.
- 4) To ensure that young people and their families have access to services at the earliest opportunity

There are a number of interventions that can be considered as a result of a young person being referred into the panel. Our main referrals are covered by the following interventions:

- Youth Engagement Service (YES) – managed by YOS
- Family Intervention Project (FIP) – managed by YOS
- Safer Cheshire East ASB Team - (Acceptable Behaviour Discussions/Acceptable Behaviour Contracts, etc)
- Targeted Youth Support - (Cheshire East Council)
- Deter Young Offenders” process – managed by YOS and YOS Police Officers

## Crime Prevention

Incidents of crime fluctuate across the area and also through the seasons and this has a huge impact on the people living, shopping or socialising in Cheshire East. The Crime Prevention Panel which is a multi agency group meet every 2 months and the aims of the group are to

- Reduce incidents of crime
- Reduce the fear of crime
- Engage with local communities
- Provide crime prevention advice



Crime Prevention Project – Brownie and Cub Poster Competition

StreetSafe project is a multi agency approach to dealing with crime prevention, public consultation and reassurance. The project is run through Cheshire East Council Community Team and the aim of the scheme is to target specific streets with the Cheshire East area and door knock on property and ask them questions in relation to the Safer, Stronger, Cleaner and Greener agenda. The project allows an opportunity for local residents to express their views as to what it is like for them to live in that area. The project follows the 'We asked, you said, we did' pattern and every resident receives a copy of a summary as to what the results demonstrated, what agencies were tasked with actions and when it should be completed.

The event takes place every 6-8 weeks and areas are chosen depending on issues relating to anti social behaviour, crime, demographics of the area (i.e. increased numbers of older people living in the area).

Another project that tackles crime prevention is the Nominated Neighbour Scheme which the partnership is actively promoting, particularly in streets where predominately older people and more vulnerable people live. The scheme is designed to reduce door step crime, distraction burglary and bogus callers by giving the resident an option to have caller 'vetted' by a nominated neighbour of their choice.

Seasonal crime prevention advice is provided throughout the year in various sources such as leaflets, information on the internet ([www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/safer](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/safer)), community events and a seasonal project the partnership is involved in is the 'Not In My Neighbourhood' week which coincides with Bonfire and Halloween week. Through multi agency working, the number of anti social behaviour incidents has dropped by 9.1% and alcohol related crimes have dropped by 6.7% during this period compared with 2010-11 police data.



StreetSafe Briefing

## Preventing Offending

'NAVIGATE' is the brand name of the pan Cheshire Integrated Offender Management Scheme. The Cheshire East scheme, from its inception, has been consistently successful in reducing re-offending. Cheshire East piloted the original PPO scheme which has subsequently rolled out across Cheshire and pivotal to the success of the scheme is the effective multi-agency working and the commitment of all staff to work alongside those offenders committing priority crimes within the area; reducing not only re-offending but also the fear of crime within local communities. One of the main reasons for its continual

success is the evolution of the scheme over the years; taking into account current trends and building on the successes of 'what works' to reduce offending. The Agencies in Cheshire East have worked together to develop and implement a very robust and 'streamlined' scheme in line within the area wide initiative but building upon our existing successes. This scheme also targets repeat offenders; accessing further hard to reach groups in order to tackle offending and provide access to relevant support. The Navigate team are also committed to annual training to ensure that all staff from all agencies is kept up-to-date with current policies and practices and to allow for the sharing of best practice and areas for development/discussion.

## **Domestic Abuse & Vulnerable People/Families**

Domestic Abuse Services are accountable to and funded by a range of partners and boards. This includes prevention and early intervention work but SCEP's specific contribution ensures that high risk survivors of domestic abuse and their families are safeguarded through provision of effective

MARAC services (MARAC = Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferencing) as part of a Co-ordinated Community Response.

This involves ensuring that the MARAC process is accessible to all who need it regardless of background, that agencies work together in the most effective way to increase safety and so prevent repeat referrals, that the process is well co-ordinated and administered and that 'aftercare' services empower victims to recover and resist future abuse.

MARAC is overseen by a Steering Group headed by the Detective Inspector of the Public Protection Unit and with a membership including all key players in addressing high risk domestic abuse – Probation, IDVA service, Health, Children's and Adults Safeguarding. This group is accountable to the Strategic Management Group of Cheshire East Domestic Abuse Partnership which is chaired by BCU Commander Mick Garrihy.

The Partnership is in the process of connecting the range of domestic abuse funding streams to commission 'whole family' work which includes non-statutory interventions to address the behaviour of those who perpetrate abuse and to improve safeguarding responses to families are affected by the most harmful coincidence of factors – domestic abuse, substance misuse and mental ill health.

A new multi agency initiative has recently been launched to help 'Troubled Families' within Cheshire East. These criteria are that families

- Are involved in youth crime or anti social behaviour
- Have children who are regularly truanting or not in school
- Have an adult on out of work benefits
- Cause high costs to the public purse

The criteria include a large degree of local discretion so that local agencies can target the programme at the families that need it the most.

The programme is based on proven intervention techniques such as Family Intervention Projects that deliver similar results. Common features of this kind of work include

- An intense whole family approach, rather than dealing with family members individually
- A single key worker or small team assigned as a main point of delivery for each family

- Different agencies such as the police, social services, schools and health visitors working together with a single plan rather than on their own.

Cheshire East will employ 10 family key workers who will manage a caseload of the following

YEAR	TOTAL
2012-13	163
2013-14	244
2014-15	82
Total	489

The newly appointed staff will be managed by Youth Offending Service as part of the wider Family Intervention Programme Team.

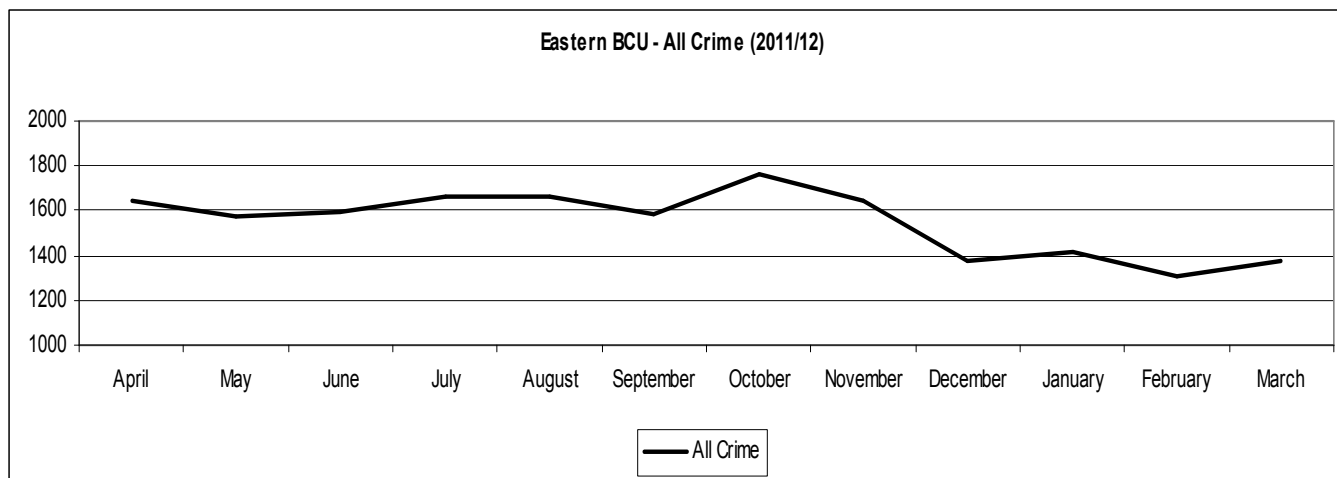
## Road Safety

An established multi-agency delivery group focuses on Education, Enforcement and Road Safety Engineering and which will include the following activities

- Delivered a wide range of educational and awareness programs including Driver Engagement Days, Motorcycle Rider Engagement Days, Drive Survive Courses, Cheers BAR, Occupational Road
- User events, School/College events and activities etc
- Provided heavily subsidised training courses to drivers and motorcyclists. (Pass+ and Life Advanced Motorcycle Courses)
- Delivered numerous high profile campaigns such as Christmas drink/drug driving, Winter Driving, Child Restraint Systems, Road Safety Week etc
- Supported delivery of free cycle training to year 6 pupils and also issued free bike lights to young cyclists.
- Implemented road safety engineering activities to reduce the risk in identified accident hotspot areas.
- Carried out enforcement activities including targeted police patrols, community speed watch and deployment of high profile speed indication devices.



## Headlines Statistics and Figures



Crime/Incident	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
All Crime	19,623	18,625	Maintain or reduce
Most Serious Violent Crime	100	107	Maintain or reduce
Serious Acquisitive Crime	2,896	2,553	Maintain or reduce
Burglary Dwelling	1,168	1,019	Maintain or reduce
Vehicle Crime	1,654	1,436	Maintain or reduce
Robbery	74	98	Maintain or reduce
Criminal Damage	3,868	3,725	Maintain or reduce
Assault with less serious injury	1,752	1,715	Maintain or reduce
Anti Social Behaviour incidents	15,716	14,940	Maintain or reduce

## Preventing Offending

### Offending *(based on date of offence)*

Baseline number of convictions	Actual convictions during nomination	Difference between baseline and actual	% impact	Reduction / Increase in convictions
740	169	571	77.16%	Reduction

### Repeat Offenders

#### Offending *(based on date of offence)*

Baseline number of convictions	Actual convictions during nomination	Difference between baseline and actual	% impact	Reduction / Increase in convictions
141	23	118	83.69%	Reduction

Below also provides a flavour of the areas and types of work we undertake with our Prolific and Priority Offenders:

#### Prolific Priority Offenders

The pathway outcomes required for this group are as follows:

'Drugs', 'Attitudes, Thinking and Behaviour' and 'Accommodation' are the three most problematic areas across the whole of the cohort:

**86%** (51/59) of the cohort have 'Drugs' as a pathway for improvement

**85%** (50/59) of the cohort have 'Attitudes, Thinking and Behaviour' as a pathway for improvement

**66%** (39/59) of the cohort have 'Accommodation' as a pathway for improvement

**Cheshire East's current cohort for those on the Navigate scheme are as follows:**

**Crewe** (including Nantwich, Alsager and Sandbach) - 33 PPO's and 11 RO's

**Macclesfield** (including Wilmslow, Knutsford and Congleton) - 31 PPO's and 5 RO's

**Total:** 64 PPO's and 16 RO's (cohort 80)

These figures often fluctuate due to successful completions and new referrals but we have the capacity to work with a cohort of 100 if required.

## Domestic Abuse

In the year April 2011- March 12:

- 424 adults with 555 children were subject to Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferencing (these are the highest risk citizens of Cheshire East, representing approximately 10% of all who suffer domestic abuse)
- The rate of reported high risk victimisation in Crewe is x 10 that in Poynton, with Macclesfield Local Area Partnership showing the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest rate
- Police attended 1057 domestic abuse incidents and 3619 domestic incidents with an arrest rate of 37% for domestic abuse incidents and a repeat rate of 23%

- Mental ill health is a factor for both victim and perpetrator in approximately ¼ all cases
- Rates of drug and alcohol misuse are x2 high among perpetrators as compared to victims and are much higher among repeat cases

## Road Safety

The Department of Transport (DfT) confirms that road deaths have increased in 2011 for the first time since 2003. The increase is confirmed in the DfT's annual road casualty report, 'Reported Casualties in Great Britain: 2011 Annual Report, published on 27<sup>th</sup> September.

	killed	serious	KSI	Slight	All
Cheshire East	12	230	242	1,325	1,567

## Perception survey

Time	% of people who feel safe
In day	83.14
At night	41.42
In the house	80.57

*Information taken from the StreetSafe Initiative between January 2011 and May 2012. Figures have been averaged across Cheshire East.*

## Financial Information

The Safer Cheshire East Partnership receives funding from a number of sources, one of these being £150,000 from a Home Office Grant and the other from the Police and Fire Service element of the Second Home Taxation. The total amount of funding to the partnership is £189,000. The money is solely used as a contribution towards neighbourhood policing within the Cheshire East area however it will be the £150,000 element of the funding that will be given to the new Police and Crime Commissioner.

Other funding is received from Cheshire East Council which pays for partnership activities

Part time ASB post	£16,000
Contribution to Cheshire East Domestic Abuse Partnership	£40,000
Probation staff x 2 (Navigate team)	£38,000
Cheshire Drug and alcohol Team worker	£20,000
Sexual Assault Referral centre worker contribution	£16,268

## Case Studies

The Safer Cheshire East Partnership has numerous examples of effective multi agency problem solving and many of these successes have been driven through the tasking and co-ordination process. The process of Tasking & Coordination is a continuous one, moving from strategy – the main areas to target which would create the need to look at the problem in more detail, through to delivery – moving from a wide to narrow picture, pointing the group towards specific actions

The eight stage process is as follows:

- Strategic assessment - identifies emerging issue. Recommended to be dealt with as a priority.
- Intelligence Requirement – Recommends the need to gather information to identify the underlying causes of the issue or problem.
- Nomination – Either from individual agency or via analysis.
- Tactical assessment – A picture of the problem is included in the tactical assessment and clear patterns emerge in one area. Recommendations are then made for intervention, prevention, intelligence and enforcement.
- Problem and subject profile – this profile, developed by the Partnership analyst, describes the problem in detail, recommends intervention, prevention, intelligence or enforcement.
- Partnership T & C – The group will discuss whether the problem in that area is significant and requires the resources of specific partner agencies. The T & C chair will, if necessary, request multi-agency resources.
- Results analysis – this is commissioned by T & C. It is necessary to know whether the issue has been resolved or displaced, and how effective were the responses.
- Information – This information is the used to develop strategic assessments, tactical assessments, problem profiles and subject profiles.

Please see appendices for detailed case studies.

## Risks and threats

The following posts or services are funded through home office grants, community safety grants or through partnership agreements by a single agency.

<b>Contribution to neighbourhood policing</b>	<b>£188,800</b>
<b>Part time ASB post</b>	<b>£16,000</b>
<b>Contribution to Cheshire East Domestic Abuse Partnership</b>	<b>£40,000</b>
<b>Probation staff x 2 (Navigate team)</b>	<b>£38,000</b>
<b>Cheshire Drug and alcohol Team worker</b>	<b>£20,000</b>
<b>Sexual Assault Referral centre worker contribution</b>	<b>£16,268</b>
<b>Mediation Service (three year contract)</b>	<b>£32,000</b>
<b>Safe target hardening service</b>	<b>£10,000</b>

## Work in preparation of PCC

Over the last 2 years, the Safer Cheshire East Partnership has been working closely with the other three Community Safety Partnerships within Cheshire to ensure that the partnership is as effective as possible and also to try and reduce duplication of activities and looks at ways in which services and resources can be collaborated across the area. Some of the areas reviewed included anti social behaviour and domestic abuse procedures.

More recently, the Safer Cheshire East Partnership formed a Police and Crime Commissioner Group which consists of Cheshire East Council, Police, Fire, Probation and Youth Offending Service and as part of this group, a review was conducted of all the priorities across Cheshire East to ensure that the resources are targeted in the correct areas.

## Commissioning

Safer Cheshire East Partnership has a number of opportunities in which commissioning services would not only benefit the partnership but would be cost effective if commissioned across the Cheshire Wide area.

The Mediation service is a valuable resource that has been used within the community safety and the anti social behaviour team for the last 2 years. Through the use of early intervention that the Mediation Service offers, there has been significant reduction in calls to service on the Police and Cheshire East Council Staff. In August 2012, as part of a Police and Crime Commissioner Review, the results showed the following:-

- **24** cases referred to Mediation Service between December 2010 and July 2012
- **10** cases resolved through both party, and one party engagement (**41.6%**)
- **8** cases not resolved through disengagement of one/both parties or non-agreement between parties (**33.3%**)
- **6** cases were closed by either by the mediation worker or by the parties due to either

legal involvement or other personal reasons by one or both of the party's e.g. ill health etc. **(25%)**

- **73** incidents occurred before Mediation Service and only 20 incidents occurred after Mediation intervention **(73%)**
- There is currently **9** 'open' cases which are not included in these figures

The approximate cost of two Police Officers attending an anti social behaviour incident and five hours of an Anti Social Behaviour Co-ordinators time to deal with the incident costs £225.

	Number of incidents before Mediation Intervention	Number of incidents after Mediation Intervention
	<b>73</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Approximate cost of PC and coordinator time (in typical cases)</b>	<b>£16,529</b>	<b>£4,501</b>

The table above clearly demonstrates a cost saving to both the police and the local authority if mediation is used to deal with anti social behaviour incidents or neighbour disputes.

A target hardening service called 'Safe' has been used across Cheshire East for a number of years and primarily works with victims of domestic abuse and burglary. Studies have proven that the chance of repeat victimisation is increased within the first 48 hours after the initial incident. The Safe scheme provides the victims of domestic abuse and burglary a rapid response to target harden the property to ensure the risk of repeat victimisation is minimal. The service also provides crime prevention and reduction advice and re-assurance to the victim who, at that particular time, is quite vulnerable within the community.

Currently Cheshire East Council fund £10,000 a year for this service however in previous years, this contribution has come from the Home Office Grant that has been given to the Safer Cheshire East Partnership. This would be a good opportunity for the service to be commissioned to benefit victims across Cheshire.

For further information please contact

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0300 123 5030

[www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/safer](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/safer)

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## **CESHIRE EAST COUNCIL**

### **REPORT TO: Community Safety Scrutiny Committee**

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<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> February 2013
<b>Report of:</b>	Head of Community Services
<b>Subject/Title:</b>	CCTV and Anti-Social Behaviour – Budgets & Performance
<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	Cllr Les Gilbert

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#### **1.0 Report Summary**

- 1.1 This report seeks to brief Members on the 2013/14 budgets and relevant performance information for the Council's CCTV Camera network and Anti-Social Behaviour Team.

#### **2.0 Recommendation**

- 2.1 Members are asked to comment on the report.

#### **3.0 Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 To inform Scrutiny Members of the Council's major Community Safety services, undertaken in partnership and as part of our duty under Section 17 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998.

#### **4.0 Wards Affected**

- 4.1 All Wards

#### **5.0 Local Ward Members**

- 5.1 All Ward Members

#### **6.0 Policy Implications including - Climate Change - Health**

- 6.1 Feeling safe and being safe in our homes, town centres and communities are important factors affecting peoples' general health and wellbeing. The purpose of CCTV is to prevent and detect crime & disorder and as such plays a key role in tackling issues such as alcohol-related violence and anti-social behaviour.

#### **7.0 Financial Implications**

- 7.1 None outside existing budgetary provision for 2013/2014

## 8.0 Legal implications (authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

8.1 None subject to the views of Scrutiny Members

## 9.0 Risk Management

9.1 Key risks for the CCTV service relate to compliance with the legislative framework of Data Protection and Human Rights which could impact on the Council's reputation and the success of prosecutions in Court.

## 10.0 Background

### CCTV Service

10.1 The purpose of the CCTV Service as set out in the Code of Practice is *'the prevention and detection of crime and disorder'*. CEBC operates 256 CCTV cameras across the Borough, the majority of which were installed by the former district Councils. The costs of maintaining such a large camera network continue to escalate and transmission line rental costs alone are almost £200,000 per annum.

10.2 The Council has provided £50,000 per annum capital funding over three years to undertake an intelligence-led review of the existing camera network. This investment is aimed at achieving a more effective network which is relevant to the needs of our town centres and our customers and we are working with the Police Data Analyst and neighbourhood teams to do this.

10.3 In 2012 the Council opened the new single CCTV Control Room in Macclesfield. This project brought together the three separate legacy authority facilities, transferred the highway Urban Traffic Control cameras and introduced improved digital recording. The Control Room now operates 24/7/365 and has also taken on the Council's Out-Of-Hours Emergency Telephone saving £75,000 p.a. from the previous arrangements.

10.4 The total cost of CCTV in 2012/13 is expected to be as follows;

Description	£'000
Employees	456
Transport	11
Supplies & Services	218
Receipts	(3)
Total	682

- 10.5 As part of the budget setting process for 2013/14, a saving of £250,000 has been proposed. This will be achieved through a combination of a full staffing rota review, the rationalisation of the camera network, a reduction in transmission costs and possible contributions from service users.

The CCTV service plays an important part in reducing anti-social behaviour, crime and disorder in 14 town centres and is a vital evidential tool for the Police in detecting offences and ensuring successful prosecutions. The latest crime data is set out below and shows year on year improvements since 2009.

YEAR	2009/2010 (baseline)	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013 (up to 28/01/2013)
<b>Total Crime</b>	16,997	16,536	15,873	14,574
<b>Anti Social Behaviour</b>	17,775	15,796	15,087	12,066

#### Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

- 10.6 The ASB service is a small team of 4 staff All are co-located in Police stations, providing a close working relationship with Officers and giving access to Police data and intelligence. In addition they work with a number of other agencies and Council services to deliver a “joined up” response to tackling incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour within the Cheshire East Area including:

- Registered Social Landlords
- Youth Offending Service
- Community Wardens
- Fire & Rescue Service
- Environmental Health
- Trading Standards
- Probation
- Cheshire East Youth Service
- Cheshire East Family Service
- Adults and Children’s Social Care
- Police Public Protection and ‘Navigate’ Units
- Voluntary Sector Services

- 10.7 The Safer Cheshire East Partnership introduced a new contact number and e-mail address for members of the public to discuss issues of ASB and other Partnership matters in December 2011, shortly followed by a re-vamp of the information on the CEBC website ([www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/safer](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/safer)).
- 10.8 These contact details are not advertised as an Anti-Social Behaviour “hotline” or “reporting service”, but an advice service for those that may not have had cause to contact the Police or other agencies, but who still need information about what they should do to deal with any ASB they are experiencing.
- 10.9 These calls/referrals are normally from members of the public that have a general concern that they feel not enough is being done by other agencies. The ASB Team has been able to pick up on these enquiries very quickly and in time, we will be able to evidence a reduction in the number of repeat callers to the Police and other relevant agencies. The team have dealt with over 350 calls since the introduction of the advice line.
- 10.10 The total cost of Community Safety Development (including ASB team and Community Safety Partnership management and co-ordination) in 2012/13 is projected to be;

Description	£'000
Employees	235
Transport	4
Supplies & Services	10
Third Party Payments	290
Receipts	(78)
Total	461

- 10.11 The team cover a wide-range of interventions including;
- ASB Log Books
  - Mediation
  - Local Tasking and Coordination nomination
  - Preventing Offending Panel nomination
  - Vulnerable person/high risk group nomination
  - ‘StreetSafe’ intervention
  - Generic Residents Questionnaire intervention
  - Hosting Residents meetings and local problem solving
  - Yellow Card Scheme
  - Manage ABD, ABC, ASBO interventions

10.12 Further information on this detailed work is attached at Appendix One.

10.13 Reports of Anti-Social Behaviour have reduced by over 5% across the Borough between same period in 2011 and 2012 as set out below by neighbourhood policing area. Youth related incidents are down by over 19% from 3,814 in 2011 to 3,089 in 2012;

<b>ASB</b>	<b>Apr - Nov 2012</b>	<b>Apr - Nov 2011</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>CONGLETON</b>	<b>2,230</b>	2,398	-168	-7.01%
<b>CREWE</b>	<b>3,351</b>	3,419	-68	-1.99%
<b>KNUTSFORD</b>	<b>396</b>	393	3	0.76%
<b>MACCLESFIELD</b>	<b>2,228</b>	2,624	-396	-15.09%
<b>NANTWICH</b>	<b>907</b>	822	85	10.34%
<b>WILMSLOW</b>	<b>943</b>	941	2	0.21%
<b>EASTERN</b>	<b>10,055</b>	<b>10,597</b>	-542	-5.11%

Appendix One:

## **11.0 Access to Information**

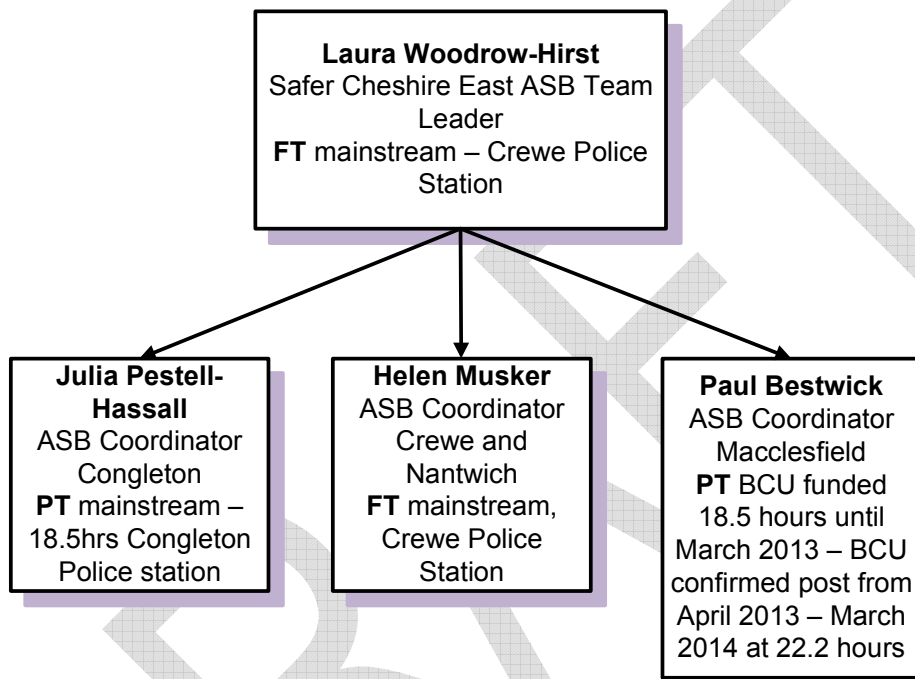
The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

Name: Peter Hartwell  
 Designation: Head of Community Services  
 Tel No: 01270 686639  
 Email: peter.hartwell@cheshireeast.gov.uk

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## CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL – SAFER CHESHIRE EAST PARTNERSHIP – ASB TEAM OVERVIEW

### STRUCTURE:



## Dealing with reports and incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour

### Mediation Service:

Nearly three years ago, the Partnership was able to purchase a large number of cases from a private mediation company (Manchester Mediation) which expanded over a three year arrangement.

It was very quickly quite clear upon the merge of all the Borough Councils into Cheshire East, that a common issue within each area was repeat calls to the Police and other services such as Environmental Health (EH) with regards to “Neighbour Disputes”.

During the early days of migration the Team was pressured with a number of “repeat” calls and issues in relation to on-going neighbour disputes which had been reported over a number of months/years. These cases had got to such a bitter state that a

number of police calls had come into the service, assaults had taken place and legal agencies had been involved.

It was clear that in all to the “extended” cases that if an earlier intervention had been available some of these cases may not have got to the point that they had. It was also noted that the vast majority of these cases involved members of the community that either owned their own property or privately rented.

Although the ASB team offer assistance to all members of the community and work closely with RSL’s, it was satisfied that the RSL’s do have enough processes in place to deal with the majority of their tenants feuds “in-house” or through a private mediation company at no cost to their tenants. The ASB Team was also confident that if this was not the case, a referral would be made to the team.

It was decided that Mediation cases would be purchased in order to supply a service (free of charge) to those members of the community who were private own/rent. These cases would be assigned to those that had called up due to issues with their neighbour, or made an initial call to the Police or Council. Some of the cases referred to the mediation team were historic cases with a number of incidents already attached to them, however opportunity was given to these cases and although a number of the cases were not able to reach an agreement due to the extended length of time the issue had been going on for, some saw some surprising results. The details below show statistics and figures in relation to the mediation service and the success of this service so far. Figures run up to July 2012:

#### Key headline figures

- **24** cases referred to Mediation Service between December 2010 and July 2012
- **10** cases resolved through both parties or one party engagement **(41.6%)**
- **8** cases not resolved through disengagement of one/both parties or non-agreement between parties **(33.3%)**
- **6** cases were closed by either by the mediation worker or by the parties due to either legal involvement or other personal reasons by one or both of the party’s e.g. ill health etc. **(25%)**
- **73** incidents occurred before Mediation Service and only 20 incidents occurred after Mediation intervention **(73%)**
- There are currently **9** ‘open’ cases which are not included in these figures

#### Costing of staff

*These figures are approximate and can only be used as an indication as to possible total costs associated with a specific incident*

<b>If anti social behaviour incident requires 60 minutes of staff time</b>	<b>Costs</b>
Police x 1	£65.18 (data from Cheshire police research team)
Police x 2	£130.36
Cheshire East Council ASB	£18.94

coordinator	
-------------	--

Total cost of ASB incident having 60 minutes of intervention from just one police officer and 60 minute intervention from an ASB co-ordinator will **cost £84.12**.

Typically, two police officers would attend an incident, especially during the evening/night time.

An ASB co-ordinator would on average spend approximately 5 hours on each case (through liaising with partner agencies/writing letters to parents/arranging and attending meetings/telephone calls to residents etc)

Total cost typically = £225.06 per incident

*\*Please note that these costs are approximate and only include the costs of police constables and ASB co-ordinators. In many incidents, other agencies are involved in dealing with ASB issues such as:-*

- *Environmental health officers*
- *Housing officers*
- *Community wardens*
- *Trading Standards officers*
- *Youth Offending officers*
- *Schools*
- *Mental health officers*

	<b>Number of incidents Before mediation Intervention:</b>	<b>Number of incidents After mediation Intervention:</b>
	73	20
<b>Approximate cost of PC and ASB coordinator time in typical cases:</b>	£16,529	£4,501

It is important to note that in some cases, incidents do lead to arrests and then the costs escalate considerably once this occurs due to the costs associated with the criminal justice system and the crown prosecution service. If the services of the Mediation Service can be offered at the first point of contact, this reduces the likelihood of enforcement taking place with regards to both civil and criminal matters. Since the Community Safety team have set up the telephone service for members of the public to contact in relation to community safety and anti social behaviour, we have received 350 calls since December 2011. Many of these calls will have been the first call to service from a resident and as a result, mediation may have been offered if deemed appropriate. In some cases, the involvement of any other agency is not required due to mediation being taken up on the first contact.

### **Repeat Caller process:**

The ASB Team works very closely with the Police in regards to their “repeat caller process”. Each NPU has their own unique way of identifying those members of the public that have three or more calls to service within a 12 month period. These cases will then be handed to local beat officers to case manage and investigate. Each ASB Coordinator will monitor these repeat calls along with the Police and identify any of those that are ASB related that may benefit from ASB Team interventions.

### **Identification of Vulnerable People:**

The ASB Team, partner agencies, Police Officers and PCSO's covering their relevant beats/areas have all the skills and knowledge to bring to attention any individuals that they consider may be particularly vulnerable with regards to any Anti-Social Behaviour they have been suffering from.

These can be victims/reporters of ASB who need an enhanced multi-agency approach with regards to supporting them and also tackling and identifying individuals that are responsible for the ASB that has been reported.

Also Perpetrators of ASB can themselves be identified as particularly vulnerable due to a number of factors that the ASB Team look at addressing as well as tackling the ASB they have been involved in.

The ASB Team can refer into one of two main panels which can look into these particular types of individuals in more detail. These being the Local Tasking and Coordination panel, or the High risk/vulnerable group, which have been recently formed with the Police Public Protection Unit Inspector taking the lead. On each case the ASB Team will still oversee the case and put in place/liaise with any relevant agency that has been additionally assigned to the case to assist with any potential vulnerabilities.

### **ASB Community Questionnaires:**

The ASB Team work closely with the Police in regards to more “community wide issues” whereby a street or a estate are suffering from incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour. The ASB Team lead on supplying to officers an ASB Community Questionnaire, which will be posted through all doors in the surrounding area that have been identified via either calls to the Police, to the ASB Team and/or other partner agencies.

All properties will receive a covering letter and the questionnaire (including the alleged perpetrator). Actions will be taken depending on the feedback from the results of the questionnaire.

This has been a fairly new process which has been introduced halfway through 2012. However early indications show that these questionnaires have been fairly successful in identifying victims/members of the community that are suffering from certain behaviours, but not contacting the Police. This process has also proved successful in making alleged perpetrators aware that we are looking into complaints and the questionnaire in itself has sometimes proved to deter the alleged perpetrator from committing further Anti-Social acts.

Those members of the community that have been identified as suffering from ASB though this process will more than likely be identified for the issuing of an Anti-Social Behaviour Log book.

#### **Anti-Social Behaviour Log Books:**

As a result of the findings in the case review of Fiona Pilkinton a new process was developed and introduced within the Cheshire East area, following the good practice of our partners in Cheshire West and our desire to work towards standardising some of our work across Cheshire.

The ASB Log book within Cheshire East was completely re-designed, re-printed and new protocol drawn up. ASB Log books are now only to be issued to Police Officers, PCSO's and CEC Community Wardens by the ASB Team who are the only team who have access to the diaries.

The Log books are issued to members of the community that are suffering from certain types of behaviour that may need monitoring and recording to assist the team with building a better picture of who is causing the ASB and also where and when the ASB is occurring.

The new process consists of the Log books now having their own unique identification number, hand delivery to the address, and fortnightly calls to the member of public from the relevant ASB Coordinator. If the diary is full at any point the member of public will contact the ASB Team who will arrange for the diary to be hand collected and new one issued (if appropriate).

This process ensures that there is an awareness of who has a diary, when it was issued, when contact is due and what the issues are. Making sure that no person who has been issued with a diary will be left to suffer in silence.

So far since the production of these diaries 46 have been issued, which have been mainly in the Crewe area. It is planned that more work will take place to promote this within the Congleton and Macclesfield areas

Of the 46, 8 are currently out in the community, who are receiving regular calls from ASB coordinator each fortnight to check on progress. The ASB Coordinator along with the local Police Officer will decide on a case by case basis as to when the diaries will be withdrawn.

More interestingly to date, of the cases that have been issued with diaries on a small amount of these have led to the contents of the diaries being used to take further action to tackle the reported ASB.

There is a pattern of behaviour from the members of the public that so far... whenever we answer their calls for assistance and we issue them with a diary the problems seem to stop, the diaries are kept out in the community for a number of weeks with fortnightly calls and then the case is closed off as calls to the Police, the ASB Team and/or partner agencies are reduced and the members of the community that have been issued with the diaries have stated that the incidents have reduced dramatically.

The reasoning's around this we believe are due to the following factors:

- Is quite often that when diaries are issued, the alleged perpetrators are aware that we are in touch with members of the community or maybe have worked it out due to letters that have potentially gone out in a generic questionnaire form or to themselves due to reported ASB.
- The alleged perpetrators will see regular visits from officers collecting and issuing diaries/visiting addresses, so may have curbed their behaviour purely due the stepped up presence and process
- If the ASB has involved young people or a family, it may be that in tally with the log books the family have been nominated to a preventative agency such as Preventing Offending Panel, Family Intervention Programme or Youth Engagement Service, therefore an improvement may have been made.
- In some circumstances, when asked to record the behaviour, residents may start to rationalise what they are writing down, and may also feel more reassured that people are interested and doing something about it. Also on a slightly negative note, they are told that when they put incidents down they may be approached at some point to convert the information into a statement or have (with the residents' permission) their log book submitted along with other evidence in order to progress a case. Some may have slightly over exaggerated previous incidents in the initial calls and complaints, and once asked to put pen to paper maybe look at things in a different light.

#### **Dealing with individuals involved in Anti-Social Behaviour:**

##### **Young People:**

The ASB Team have a notification process in place which looks at any form of Anti-Social Behaviour that Young People may find themselves involved in from the lowest level all the way towards much more formal actions.

Cheshire East Police Officers work in conjunction with the ASB Team by completing "yellow cards" when out and about on duty and coming across young people that have been involved in an Anti-Social incident or witnessed by an officer on their daily beat patrols.

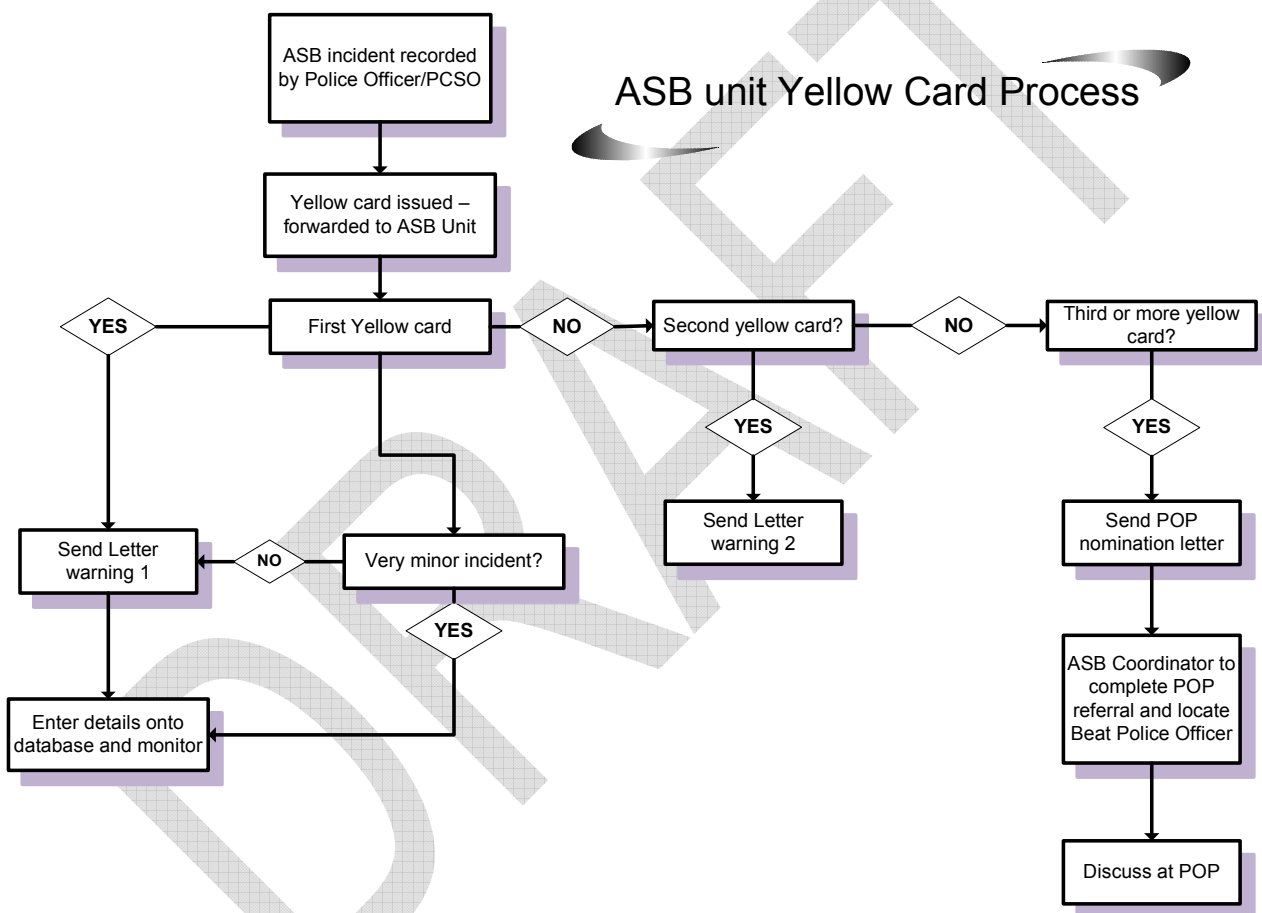
Details will be taken from the young person by the officer; the cards will then be forwarded to the ASB team. Depending on the type of incident and number of times the young person has come to attention previously the following actions are lead by the ASB Team:

### Warning letters:

A series of warning letters are sent to the Parents/Guardians of young people detailing the incidents and what actions should be taken. There is normally a limit of 3 yellow cards/warning letters within a six month period before any further preventative or formal action is considered.

Incidents include underage drinking, possession of alcohol underage, causing noise and ASB disturbances in a recognised ASB hotspot area, causing ABC and nuisance in and around town centres, shops, neighbourhoods, parks, community centres/spaces or specific incidents targeting a certain group of or individual victims.

The flow chart below details the yellow card/letter warning process further:



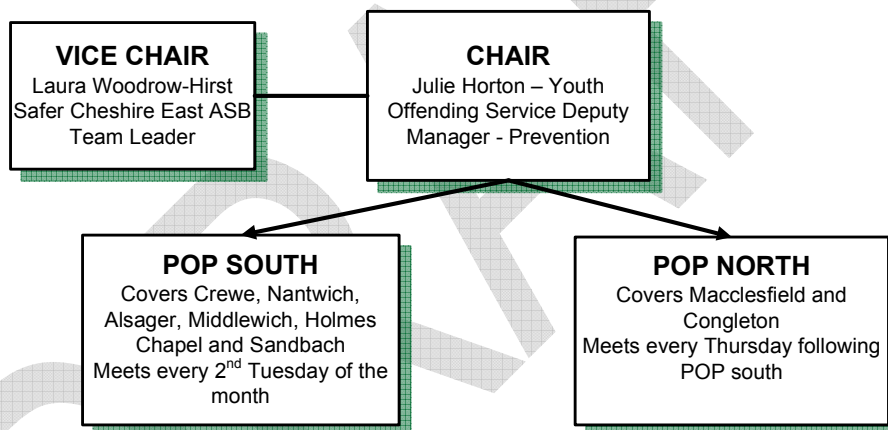


### Preventing Offending Panel (POP):

The ASB Team, alongside the Youth Offending Service run and attend monthly panels (POP) in order to discuss those young people that have been identified as being at risk of offending and/or Anti-Social Behaviour. Those young people that have had written warnings from the ASB Team will be nominated to this panel, along with any other young people that Police Officers, Schools, Housing or any other agency have identified as having the same risks.

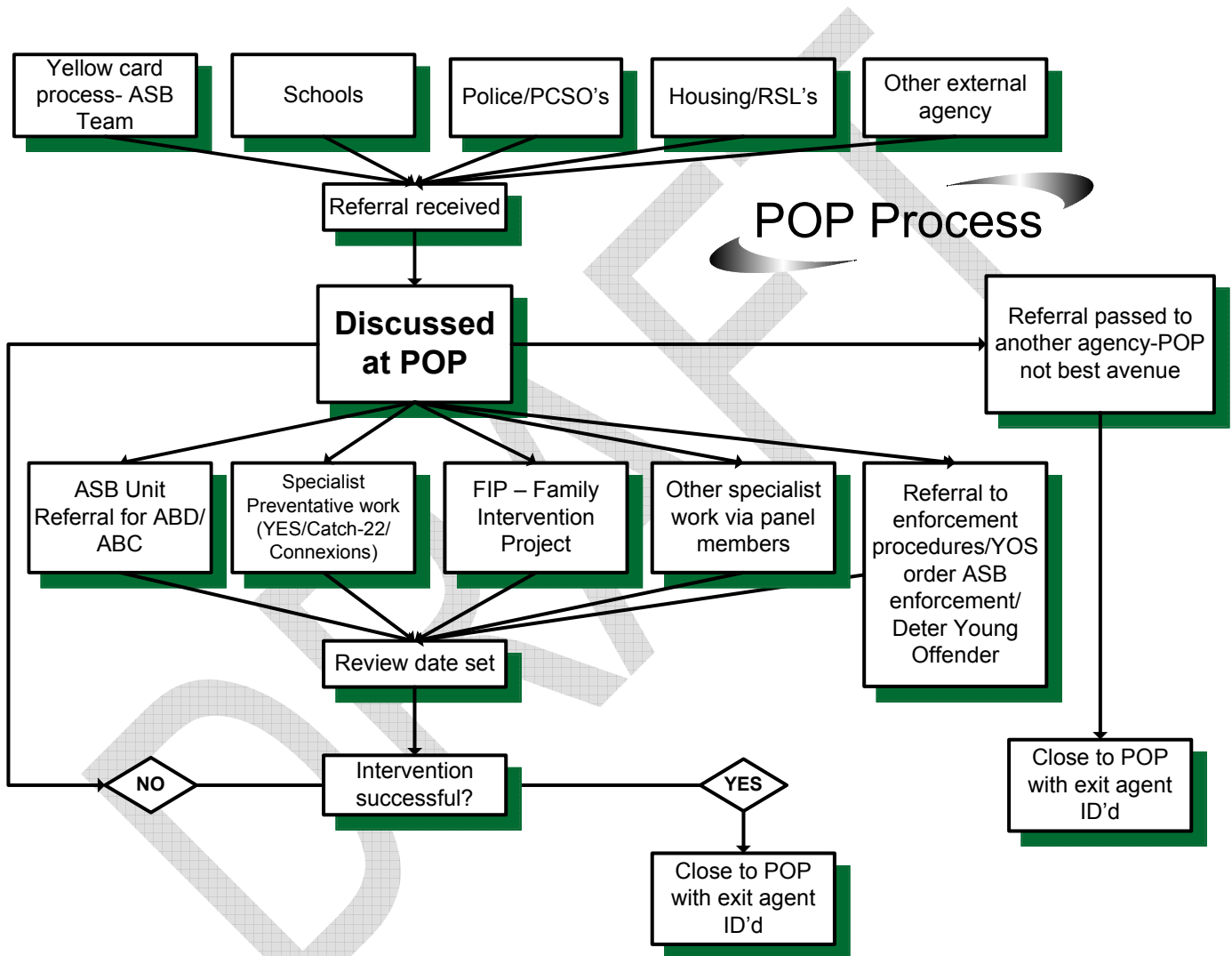
On some occasions referrals have been made based on phone calls received to the ASB Team from concerned parents on receipt of a warning letter they may have been sent.

There are two core preventing offending panels that meet on a monthly basis. The panels are chaired by the Prevention Manager of the Youth Offending Service and vice chaired by the ASB Team Leader. The split and structure of the panel is described in the table below. The Panel has its own unique logo in order to show a collection of agencies and also has its own flyers and advice leaflets for parents, young people and agencies.



The two panels are attended by core agencies including Police, Youth Offending Service, ASB Team, Schools, Education Welfare, Cheshire East Family Service, Registered Social Landlords, Troubled Families Team, Primary Healthcare Trust School nurses, Targeted Youth Service, representatives from the Family Intervention Programme

Any agency can refer a young person (up to their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday) to the POP. The below flow chart shows the process of the POP panel and actions that may arise from a young person being discussed at the panel:



All those young people that are nominated to the POP will more than likely be offered interventions from the ASB Team itself and also preventative work from any other the main agencies listed below:

- Youth Engagement Service (YES) supplied by the Youth Offending Service
- Family Intervention Programme (FIP) supplied by the Youth Offending Service
- Cheshire Targeted Youth Service (CEC)
- Multi Systemic Therapy (Supplied by Youth Offending Service and partner Agencies)

- Cheshire East Family Service
- Cheshire East Troubled Families Initiative

### **Acceptable Behaviour Discussions (ABD):**

Most young people who have been subject to a number of yellow cards and/or POP nomination will more than likely then be invited to attend an Acceptable Behaviour Discussion by the relevant ASB Coordinator.

The ASB Coordinator will be responsible for the entire ABD process, from the identification of involved agencies, invitation letters, chairing of the discussion meeting and monitoring/review of the case. There have currently been 98 ABD's across the Eastern area over the last 24 months, 18 of which went onto the next stage within the ASB Team's interventions, which is Acceptable Behaviour Contract (ABC) stage.

### **Acceptable Behaviour Contract's (ABC)**

Over the past two years the process used in order to identify young people whom should be subject to an ABC meeting was developed and changed. It had been noted that since 2004, the next stage following a series of warning letters would be an ABC meeting. This led to a number of young people within the Eastern area, all on voluntary contracts which became hard to manage and Police. It was decided that in 2010 the "Acceptable Behaviour Discussion" process would take place before any young person was considered for an Acceptable Behaviour Contract. This gave much more weight to an ABC, and those young people considered for this type of intervention would be in danger of becoming subject to an Anti-Social Behaviour Contract. This reduced the numbers of young people on contracts and made it much better for Police and the ASB unit to monitor these individuals whom are considered as the most prolific for ASB within the Eastern area.

The ASB Team are again responsible for the construction of the ABC conditions and liaison with all the relevant agencies. At this stage the ASB Team will also be working with the local officers and housing with regards to the production of an incident timeline in preparation for any breaches of the contract and potential application for an ASBO/breach of tenancy.

As of December 2012, 3 applications for ASBO are being considered as a result of ABC breaches and further offending being displayed by young people in the Eastern area. No ASBO's have been served on young people in the area due to the work of the ASB Team and partner agencies with regards to preventing ASB since 2010.

### **Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBO's):**

The ASB Team are the main point of contact for all ASBO considerations in the Cheshire East area. The ASB Team will assist and support with the organisation of all case conferences, legal representation and guidance on the construction of ASBO files.

The ASB Team will also organise the relevant permissions for release of photographs for publicity purposes along with guidance around proportionality in relation to the need for leaflets and press involvement, especially concerning Young People. In addition to the monitoring and support needed with an ASBO, all young people subject to an ASBO have to have the order reviewed every year to assess the need for the order, and the success of the prohibitions on the order etc.

There are currently ten ASBO's running in the Eastern area, and 9 applications are being considered and liaisons with force solicitors and CPS are taking place, these considerations are for a mixture of adults and young people.

<b>Adults:</b>
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Once a potential perpetrator has been identified, the ASB Team will liaise with all the relevant agencies involved with the incident and the perpetrator with a view to tackle the behaviour they are displaying and put the correct actions in place to protect the members of the community that have been suffering from their behaviour. The ASB Team will be responsible for any of the below actions that may take place:

- Letter warning sent to the individual detailing the behaviour reported and also warning them of further actions that could be taken if the behaviour continues
- Acceptable Behaviour Discussion meeting
- The individual is asked to attend a meeting along with the relevant agencies and their landlord if the perpetrator is a tenant.
- Acceptable Behaviour Contact meeting – the individual is asked to attend a meeting , which will then ask them to sign up to a voluntary contract of conditions prohibiting them from doing certain things and displaying certain types of behaviour that has been causing harassment, alarm or distress to members of the public/community
- Breach of tenancy – If the individual is living in rented accommodation with either social or private housing, then this could put their home at risk. The ASB Team work very closely with all Registered Social Landlords and also local landlords of any private rented accommodation. The ASB Team aims to request the support of landlords in assisting with tackling Anti-Social Behaviour displayed by tenants, and if needed will remind them of their obligations.
- ASBO's – as with the description under “young people” in this document, the ASB Team will liaise with the relevant partners in order to apply for ASBO's on any individual who has not taken heed to any of the alternative interventions.

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