

Safe & Sound – Dudley’s Community Safety Partnership
Police and Crime Board Arrangements and
Allocation and Spend of Community Safety Fund – 2013/14

Police and Crime Board

Safe & Sound (Dudley’s Community Safety Partnership) has welcomed the Police and Crime Commissioner’s approach to passporting back the Community Safety Fund to Local Authority areas in order for local needs to be met.

A Task and Finish Group, reporting to Safe and Sound Strategic Board was set up to take forward Police and Crime Board arrangements for Dudley. The first Police and Crime Board Meeting took place on 7th November 2013 at which the Police and Crime Commissioner attended and outlined his vision and expectations for Police and Crime Boards across the West Midlands.

Police and Crime Plan

Dudley LPU’s Policing Plan was published at the end of March 2013. Priorities from this plan were incorporated into a refresh of the Community Safety Partnership’s Annual Plan. This formed a combined Community Safety Partnership/ Policing and Crime Plan document for 2013/14. Arrangements for 2014/15 have been reviewed.

Priorities for the 2013/14 were identified from the Safe & Sound Strategic Assessment as well as through a number of community consultation mechanisms.

Priorities can be summarised into 3 key areas:

- Reduce our repeat victims by tackling re-offending.
- Safeguard vulnerable groups and increase the understanding of our youth and young people.
- To manage tension and improve quality of life and safety in our neighbourhoods and town centres.

Allocation of Funding – Grant = £396,364

2013/14 was regarded as a transitional year by the Safe & Sound Partnership. The Community Safety Fund was allocated to meet the priorities as outlined above to the following key Partnership Groups:--

Crime Reduction Implementation Group/Police and Crime Board - £112,033

- For details of spend please see appendix 1

Substance Misuse Implementation Group - £207,050

- Contribution to Drug Intervention Programme and other Criminal Justice Interventions.

Youth Offending Service Management Board - £54,796

- Contribution to Substance Misuse interventions delivered within the YOS and Early Intervention

Childrens Services Directorate – Children and Young Persons Substance Misuse Group - £22,485

- Additional capacity – The Zone – Young Persons Substance Misuse Service
- Substance Misuse - Workforce Training – Connexions and Troubled Families

Community Safety Fund – 2013/14 – Interim Outcomes

Further information will follow in respect of outcomes for 2013/14. For 2014/15 outcomes will be reported on a quarterly basis

IDVAs – Victim Support

Priorities supported

- Reduce our repeat victims by tackling re-offending
- Safeguard vulnerable groups

The breakdown below has been provided by Victim Support as part of their contract monitoring arrangements

| Quarter | Q1 (13/14) | Q2 (13/14) | Q3 (13/14) | Q4 (13/14) | Yearly total |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Police | 9 | 26 | 14 | 35 | 84 |
| MARAC | 44 | 9 | 44 | 21 | 118 |
| Health | 6 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 15 |
| Other DV or SV | 5 | 0 | 5 | 12 | 22 |
| Housing | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Children, YP's families | 15 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 21 |
| Specialist Services | 0 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 7 |
| Self | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 5 |
| Other | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| TOTAL | 79 | 49 | 69 | 79 | 276 |

Quarter 4 Monitoring - Quality of Service

Monitoring has continued this quarter and 6 satisfaction surveys were completed by an independent member of Victim Support staff.

A risk assessment of whether it is suitable to conduct a survey is carried out by the IDVAs as it is not always appropriate to contact all victims particularly if they have decided to remain with their partner.

There are a number of difficulties associated with conducting these surveys and this affects the numbers obtained. These difficulties are:-

- Clients have moved and contact details have changed
- Staff are only available to undertake these surveys during normal working hours and many people are unavailable
- Cases are sometimes closed due to client non-contact
- Phone numbers may have been changed or cannot be connected – this is a predominant problem

As many satisfaction surveys as possible have been undertaken, given these parameters.

The Findings

- 6/6 respondents were female
- 6/6 respondents received support from another agency before being referred to the IDVA Project these include Childrens' Service, Police and Health
- 6/6 respondents found the help they received from the IDVA Project very helpful
- 6/6 respondents confirmed they were kept up to date on the progress of their case
- 6/6 respondents confirmed that the IDVA Project took into account special requirements
- 6/6 respondents were offered details on other services – home security/personal safety

Sanctuary Scheme

Priorities supported

- Reduce our repeat victims
- Safeguard vulnerable groups

Support for 10 high risk victims of Domestic Abuse and their families. This support has been provided to enable victims and their families to remain in their own homes by providing security "equipment" e.g. secure doors.

As far as we are aware, where work has been carried out at these premises there have been no repeat victims of domestic abuse.

“JAR” – Target Hardening Initiatives

Priorities Supported

- Reduce our repeat victims by tackling re-offending.
- Safeguard vulnerable groups
- To manage tension and improve quality of life and safety in our neighbourhoods and town centres.

Work undertaken

- SelectaDNA – Burglary Reduction
- UV Pens – Burglary Reduction
- 12 days of Christmas Campaign
- Darker Nights Campaigns and initiatives

Drug Intervention Programme and other Criminal Justice Interventions

Priorities Supported

- Reduce our repeat victims by tackling re-offending.

Dudley delivered a full Drug Intervention Programme during 2013/14. A contribution from the CSF together with a contribution from the Public Health Grant met the cost of the Cranstoun contract to deliver Dudley's DIP/Criminal Justice Service.

Dudley has been a consistently high performing CSP in respect of reducing reoffending.

The performance framework for Criminal Justice changed in year 2013-14. Performance reports for April to September 2013 show excellent performance in respect of DIs 1, 3 and 4 with the DIP Team reaching 100% for these DIs and good performance in respect of DI 2 (see appendix 2).

For the same period of 48 clients (28%) were closed on the caseload as they were no longer a class A drug user and no longer offending (and no longer in need of a service)

The DIP Team also undertook work in the custody suite in respect of alcohol misuse. From April 2013 to December 2013 a total of 345 AUDITS were undertaken and interventions and brief advice delivered to offenders.

Other work has included Restrictions on Bail, prison in reach and assertive outreach. Assertive outreach has also been undertaken in partnership with police and probation colleagues.

YOS – Contribution to Substance Misuse Worker Post and Early Intervention Post

The Head of YOS reports on a quarterly basis to safe & sound Strategic Board. The contribution towards the above posts has contributed to the overall excellent performance of the YOS and positive outcomes for young offenders. Extracts below are from the Head of YOS's report to Board in March 2014.

NATIONAL INDICATOR (1) First time entrants to the Youth Justice System. This measure counts when a young person (10-17) receives their first substantive outcome in the Criminal Justice System. This will include a Caution, Conditional Caution, Referral Order, Youth Rehabilitation Order or a Custodial Sentence. These figures are provided by the Youth Justice Board and are taken from PNC data. It is measured on the basis of a 12 month rolling cohort with the latest cohort available being October 2012 – September 2013. Figures demonstrate a reduction of 18.5% when compared with the baseline data. The target for this period was a 7% reduction which has been significantly exceeded.

NATIONAL INDICATOR (2) Reduce the rate of Custody This indicator measures the number of young people receiving a Custodial Sentence in the period on a rolling cohort basis. This is then compared with the same 12 months prior. The figure is a rate per 1,000 of the 10-17 population. The figures demonstrate a good reduction against baseline and is below the target of 0.5. In numerical terms this equates to a reduction from 19 individuals to 11 individuals.

NATIONAL INDICATOR (3) Reducing Reoffending Rates This measures reoffending rates after 12 months. It measures in both frequently and binary. The number in the cohort reoffending and the number of offences these young people committed. The effect of changes in the system now means there are fewer young people in this cohort; however these young people represent the most challenging and likely to reoffend group so to maintain figures this low is a significant achievement. Latest YJB published figures indicate that Dudley's reoffending figures are the 4th best in the country.

Substance Misuse – April to December 2013 - YOS

(i) Young people to be assessed and access treatment within 15 days and (ii) recorded outcomes from treatment. Figures indicate that 100% of young people accessing the service were assessed and completed their first intervention in the target timescale.

29% of young people completed treatment drug and alcohol free (8)

48% of young people left the service on the basis of "occasional user" (14) Treatment completed occasional user is defined as a young person who no longer requires a structured drug/alcohol intervention, and there is evidence of occasional drug/alcohol use (but not for not heroin or crack use) and this is not judged as been problematic.

Additional Capacity – The Zone

The Zone was Dudley's Children and Young Persons Specialist Substance Misuse Service until 31/3/14. The Zone experienced increased referrals to their Service during 2013/14. £21,328 was allocated from the Community Safety Fund to increase worker capacity. This was in addition to worker capacity within the Youth Offending Service. Work has been undertaken with children and young people in respect of out of court disposals e.g. Community Resolutions.

Due to changes to the National Drug Treatment Monitoring Service we only have performance data available to quarter 2 2013/14. 97% of young people left treatment in a planned way and met agreed goals on their care plan at exit. 100% of young people left treatment in an agreed and planned way and were referred onto universal or targeted services where appropriate.

Training - £1,157

Training was commissioned from Aquarius for the Troubled Families Team and Connexions staff so that professionals working with adults, children or families can recognise the signs of substance misuse use and deliver interventions to an appropriate level before sign posting to specialist services when necessary.

There was also a part contribution to the Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Event.

Conclusion

When compared to the CSPs within the West Midlands Police Force area, Dudley has the lowest rate of crimes per 1,000 population and therefore continues to be the safest Borough within the West Midlands.

The commissioning of the above provision and strength of partnership working has significantly contributed to this achievement.

Looking Ahead

The 2014/15 Police and Crime Plan has now been finalised following consultation with Dudley's Police and Crime Board (other consultations and the Strategic Assessment also contributed to the development of the Plan). The Police and Crime Board Meeting on 8th May 2014 will be used to look at initiatives required to support the 2014/15 plan.

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24/4/14