

Title of meeting: Cabinet

Date of meeting: 8 March 2022

Subject: Violence Against Women and Girls Safety Audit

Report by: Bruce Marr, Head Harm and Exploitation

Wards affected: All

Key decision: No

Full Council decision: No

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To update cabinet following the request made at the extraordinary City Council meeting on 7th December 2021 for the "Cabinet to conduct a "Safety Audit", allowing residents to share their views about how public lighting and CCTV could be improved to promote safer streets and a safer public domain for women and girls".

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 For a further report to Cabinet with an update on the outcome of the community safety survey.

3. Background

- 3.1 Cabinet acknowledges that dealing with this issue should not require women to behave differently. To help understand the need and to improve the safety for women on the streets cabinet proposed the commissioning of a Safety Audit, with a subsequent report to update on the findings and recommend any necessary actions.
- 3.2 Every two years since 2010, the Safer Portsmouth Partnership carries out face-to-face surveys with approximately 1,000 residents to seek their views and their experience of crime and anti-social behaviour in the city.¹ The survey takes place in February (2022) therefore, in response, an existing question has been adapted (see para 3.3) as this provides a consistent opportunity for the public to feedback their views in relation to safety on the streets and will embed the safety audit as core business. Cabinet will then be able to receive updates every two years and monitor progress to make Portsmouth's streets safer for women and girls.

¹ The Community Safety Research team (now sitting within the Public Health Intelligence Team) co-ordinate this piece of research, employing and supervising students, enabling them to conduct the fieldwork

- 3.3 Question 9b of the Community Safety Survey (appendix 1) has been amended to enable us to help us improve safety in the places people identify:
- This question previously asked respondents if there were any places in Portsmouth where they felt unsafe or avoided and asked why.
 - The amended question this year also asks respondents to specify whether this is during the day or at night/when dark and also asked what we could do so they feel safer in this location.
 - Where respondents are female, there is an additional statement where the fieldworkers can let them know that this is an important question because we are doing work to address violence against women and girls.
 - This survey collects demographic information, so that responses from females only can be extracted, or can be compared with answers from males.
- 3.4 This survey is conducted by staff and students who have received training on interviewing techniques and provides an opportunity for women to share their views without being led; question 9b asks open questions about the experiences and views of women as opposed to a providing a list of leading questions.
- 3.5 The outcome of the survey will be known by the end of May; this would inform the need to explore specific findings further.

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Signed by: Sarah Daly, Director of Children Social Care

Appendices:

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by on

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Signed by:

Appendix 1

Portsmouth Community Safety Survey 2022

Check: Does the respondent live in Portsmouth? PO1, PO2, PO3, PO4, PO5, PO6 only.

Prompt: We would like to ask you about crime and nuisance behaviour in the area where you live and in Portsmouth as a whole. This survey will take about 10 minutes and these findings will be used by the Partnership when they are planning how to address these issues and improve community safety, so your views are important to us.

I will be asking you questions about your personal characteristics such as your age and ethnicity. I won't need your name though and the information I collect about you will be anonymous and not be used to identify you in any way.

About You (Show this page and next to the interviewee and fill it out together)

1	Sex	Male (1)	Female (2)	Prefer not to say (3)
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2	Age	18-24 (1)	25-34 (2)	35-44 (3)	45-54 (4)	55-64 (5)	65-74 (6)	75+ (7)
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3	Main Occupation	Choose the most relevant category	
		Employee in full time job (30+ hours per week)	1
		Employee in part time job (Under 30 hours/week)	2
		Self Employed (full or part time)	3
		Full time education	4
		Unemployed and available for work	5
		Permanently sick / disabled	6
		Wholly retired from work	7
		Looking after home	8
Other, please specify:	9		

4	Do you serve, or have you ever served, in the Army, Navy or Air Force?	
	Yes	No

5	Postcode / Ward	
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6	Ethnicity	Choose the option from this list that best describes your ethnic group or background	
		British / English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish	1
		Irish	2
		Gypsy or Irish Traveller	3



	Any other white background (please describe)	4
Mixed or multiple ethnic group	White and Black Caribbean	5
	White and Black African	6
	White and Asian	7
	Any other multiple ethnic background (please describe)	8
Asian or Asian British	Indian	9
	Pakistani	10
	Bangladeshi	11
	Chinese	12
	Any other Asian background (please describe)	13
Black or Black British	African	14
	Caribbean	15
	Any other Black background (please describe)	16
Other ethnic group	Arab	17
	Any other ethnic group, (please describe)	18

7	Disability	Do you consider yourself to have a disability? If so, choose the option from this list that best describes your disability.	
		Mobility / physical disability	1
		Hearing problems	2
		Visual problems	3
		Learning disability	4
		Poor mental health	5
		Other (please describe)	6
		None	7

Questions about Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

Please indicate to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements on a scale of 1 to 5

Q1	The overall quality of my life in Portsmouth is very good.				
	1 - Strongly disagree	2	3	4	5 - Strongly agree

Q2	Anti-social behaviour is a big problem in the area where I live.				
	1 - Strongly disagree	2	3	4	5 - Strongly agree

Q3	What type of anti-social behaviour, if any, have you personally experienced or witnessed <u>in your area in the last twelve months?</u> (<i>Do not show or read this list, just circle the codes for the most relevant box, and record whether the ASB was reported</i>).			
	ASB Type	Code	Reported ?	To whom?



	None	0		
Noise	Noise from domestic / residential property	1		
	Noise from commercial property (industrial, shops etc.)	2		
	Noise from licensed premises (pubs, clubs, bars & restaurants)	3		
	General noise in the street	4		
	Traffic noise in the street	5		
	Environmental	Traffic issues such as parking or cycling on pavements	6	
Litter and rubbish in the street		7		
Dog mess		8		
Bin bags left out on the wrong day/time		9		
Vandalism or graffiti		10		
Fly tipping		11		
Personal	Neighbour/general disputes	12		
	Harassment/bullying or intimidating behaviour targeting individuals	13		
	Online harassment / bullying or intimidating behaviour targeting individuals	14		
Nuisance / Drugs /	People hanging around (specify)	15		
	Begging	16		
	Street drinking	17		
	Rough sleeping	18		
	Other alcohol related ASB (specify)	19		
	People using drugs	20		
	People dealing drugs	21		
	Drug litter	22		
Other	Dangerous animals / roaming or unsupervised dogs			
	Other (specify):	24		
Q3 Comments:				



Q4	Are you worried about being the victim of a crime? If so what type of crime? <i>(Do not show or read this list, just circle the most relevant code).</i>	
No	No, I am not worried	0
Violence	Being mugged or robbed	1
	Being assaulted or beaten up	2
	Being stabbed	3
	Being sexually assaulted or harassed	4
	Being harassed or stalked (e.g. following, loitering, spying on more than one occasion)	5
	Being threatened, insulted or abused, or behavior likely to cause fear or distress (one occasion)	6
Hate	Hate crime - targeted behaviour because of race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity (please specify which)	7
Theft & Fraud	Your home being burgled	8
	Having things stolen from garage, shed or garden	9
	Bogus callers at your door (scams - NOT unwanted cold callers)	10
	Having a car or motorbike stolen	11
	Having a car broken into	12
	Having a bicycle stolen	13
	Street theft such as being pick pocketed	14
	Identity theft	15
	Other fraud	16
Damage	Arson	17
	Criminal damage to your home / garden	18
	Damage to your car or motorbike	19
Other	Other (please specify):	20
	Don't know	21
Q4 Comments:		



Q5 Looking at the list below, what types of crime, if any, <u>have actually happened to you in Portsmouth in the last twelve months?</u> (<i>Show the list for this question and record whether it was reported and to whom</i>).				
Crime Type		Code	Reported?	To whom?
No	None	0		
Violence	Being mugged or robbed	1		
	Being assaulted or beaten up	2		
	Being stabbed	3		
	Being sexually assaulted or harassed	4		
	Being harassed or stalked (e.g. following, loitering, spying on more than one occasion)	5		
	Being threatened, insulted or abused, or behavior likely to cause fear or distress (one occasion)	6		
Hate	Hate crime - targeted behaviour because of race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity (please specify which)	7		
Theft & Fraud	Your home being burgled	8		
	Having things stolen from garage, shed or garden	9		
	Bogus callers at your door (scams - NOT unwanted cold callers)	10		
	Having a car or motorbike stolen	11		
	Having a car broken into	12		
	Having a bicycle stolen	13		
	Street theft such as being pick pocketed	14		
	Identity theft	15		
	Other fraud	16		
Damage	Arson	17		
	Criminal damage to your home / garden	18		
	Damage to your car or motorbike	19		
Other	Other (please specify):	20		
	Don't know	21		
Q5 Comments:				



Q6	Since the Covid-19 pandemic, we know that people are using online platforms for many of their day-to-day needs, particularly shopping, working and socialising. Have you experienced any of the following types of cyber-crime in the last 12 months? <i>(Show the list for this question and record whether it was reported and to whom).</i>			
	Crime Type	Code	Report ?	To whom?
No	None	0		
Online	Phishing: clicked on an email designed to look like a trusted source and had money or data stolen (not just received the email and deleted it)	1		
	Online fraud: personal details stolen online and your bank accounts used to buy goods or services	2		
	Malware/ransomware: had your computer infected with a virus or other 'malware' which has caused your personal information to be manipulated, stolen or deleted	3		
	Personal hacking: unauthorised access to your online accounts e.g. social media and email accounts (hacking)	4		
	Received hateful or prejudiced content on an online platform because of your race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, sex or gender identity (please specify which):	5		
	Online abuse - being bullied online or receiving violent, abusive or explicit online content which causes alarm or distress	6		
	Online harassment- being bullied online or receiving violent, abusive or explicit online content which causes alarm or distress on more than one occasion	7		
	Cyberstalking (repeated use of electronic communications to frighten you and/or monitor your activity)	8		
	Online sexual abuse: abuse of a sexual nature or sexual images/videos taken or shared without consent	7		
	Receiving unsolicited and unwanted obscene pictures or videos, (including cyberflashing)	8		
Online grooming (If you are a parent or guardian, has your child been contacted online by an adult who has tried to befriend your child).	9			
Other, please specify:	10			



Q7	If you did not report a crime that you experienced, what was the reason for not reporting it? <i>(Please list each crime separately and give a reason for not reporting – this can include ‘don’t know’)</i>.	
	Crimes which were not reported	Why didn't you report this crime?
Q7 Comments:		

Q8a	Do you think knife crime is a problem in Portsmouth?		
	Yes	No	I don't know

Q8b	If you answered yes to the previous question, why do you think knife crime is a problem in Portsmouth?
	Comments:

Q8c	Have you seen someone carrying a knife or a weapon in the area that you live in (in the last 12 months)?	
	Yes	
	No	
	Don't know	

Q8d	If you have seen someone carrying a weapon, what type of weapon was it?
	Please specify:

Q8e	Was it a young person or an adult carrying the weapon?	
	Young person (17 or under)	
	Adult (18+)	

	Not sure	
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Q8f	Have you experienced or witnessed a crime involving a knife or bladed weapon in the past 12 months?	
	No	
	Experienced	
	Witnessed	
	Comments:	

Q9a	Are there any parts or places in Portsmouth where you feel unsafe or where you avoid going due to feeling fearful of crime?	
	Yes	No

Q9b	(add this for females: The partnership is doing work around violence against women and girls, and so we want to hear from you about places you don't feel safe in Portsmouth)		
	Please tell us where you feel unsafe or avoid, giving as much detail as possible about the location.		
	Thinking about each location can you tell us why you feel unsafe or avoid these locations?		
	What could we do so that you feel safer in this location?		

Where? Please tell us about the area and the specific location	Night/dark only	Why do you feel frightened or avoid these locations?	What could we do so you feel safer in this location?

Thank you for taking part in this survey, the findings will be published by the SPP on its website by the end of May 2022.

If you would be happy for us to contact you in the future about any other crime and safety issues please leave your details on the contact sheet.