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<b>Title of meeting:</b>	Health and Wellbeing Board
<b>Subject:</b>	Community Safety Plan - 2022/23 - Progress report
<b>Date of meeting:</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
<b>Report by:</b>	Lisa Wills, Strategy & Partnership Manager
<b>Wards affected:</b>	All wards

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### **1. Requested by**

This report has been requested by Acting Superintendent Paul Markham and Councillor Ian Holder, Cabinet Member for Safety in the Community.

### **2. Purpose**

- 2.1 To update members of the Board on the progress towards addressing the priorities in the Community Safety Plan 2021-22 (see Appendix 1) and;
- 2.2 Subject to the findings of the annual community safety analysis, that will identify any new or emerging priorities in November 2023, to recommend the current priorities are rolled forward.
- 2.3 To note that the findings from the strategic assessment (SA) 2023-24, due in November 2024, will be used to develop a new community safety plan for Portsmouth, alongside other related plans as explained below.

### **3. Background**

- 3.1 The current community safety plan 2021-22 supports the City Vision 2040 and aims to make sure all our residents and communities feel safe, feel like they belong, and can thrive. The plan also supports the 'Positive Relationships' priority in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-30<sup>1</sup>.
- 3.2 The impact of pandemic restrictions on data collection and analysis between March 2020 and January 2022, meant that the data analysis required to develop a new community safety plan was unreliable and the board agreed in June 2022 that the community safety priorities would remain unchanged for 2022/23.
- 3.3 In September 2022 the strategic assessment update was approved by the Health and Wellbeing Board and recommended more focus on 'violence against women and girls', but that

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<sup>1</sup> See update in Appendix 3



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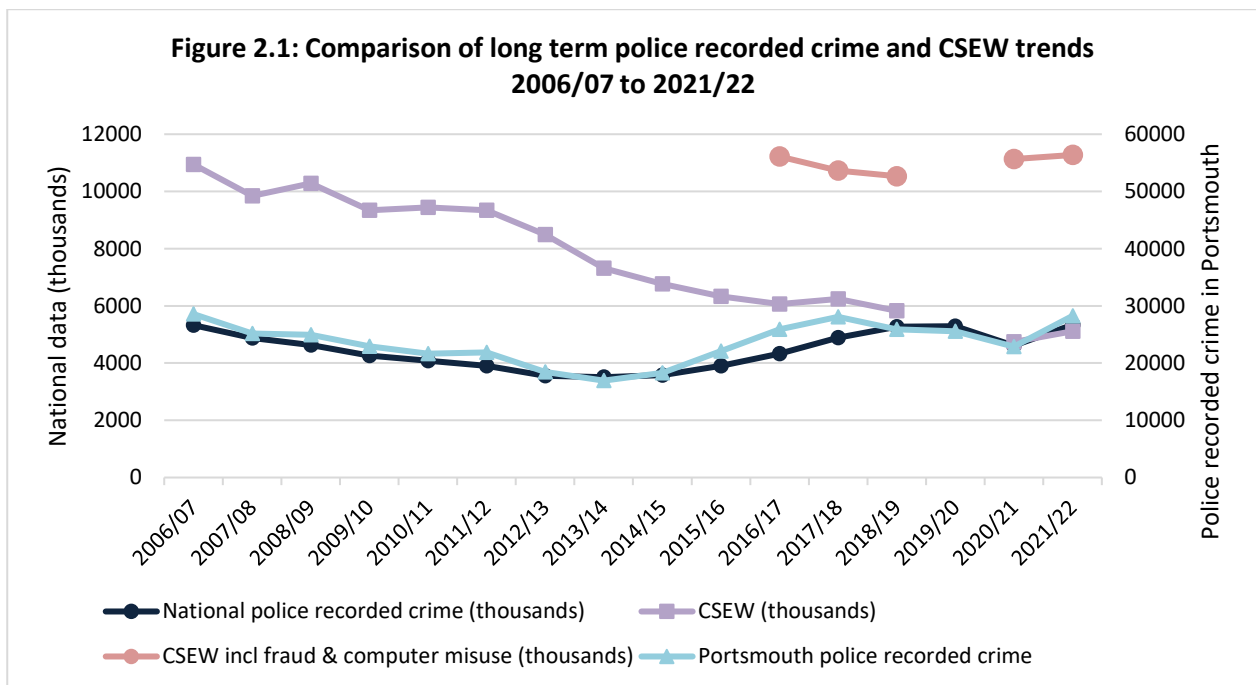
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all other priorities remain the same. The key messages from the strategic assessment update can be found at Appendix 2.

3.4 This report draws from the work of colleagues across the council. Thanks to Alan Knobel, Sam Graves, Lisa Morgan and Caroline Hopper for their input.

**4. Reviewing Community Safety Priorities**

**4.1 Overall crime** - The graph below clearly shows the downward trend of overall police recorded crime in Portsmouth is similar to the national trend. It is interesting to note the changes in levels of national police **recorded** crime, crime **reported** to the national Crime Survey for England and Wales and Portsmouth police recorded crime.



4.2 While the September 22 SA update provided a summary of the key crime trends and issues, a detailed scoring matrix<sup>2</sup> is also used to identify or review crime priorities for the partnership. There were no significant changes in highest scoring crime types, compared with 2019/20<sup>3</sup>. The matrix is included in the SA Update here which can be found on the Safer Portsmouth Partnership website.

4.3 Considering the findings from the previous full Strategic Assessment for 2020/21 and the updated analysis for 2021/22, it is recommended that the previous priorities remain but that there is a renewed focus on violence against women and girls:

<sup>2</sup> The matrix takes account of volume, trends, benchmarking, public concern, personal harm and whether they were likely to have disproportionate impacts against sections of the community or were linked to drug and alcohol misuse.

<sup>3</sup> 2019/20 data is used as a comparison as data from 20/21 was unreliable.

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- A. Tackling violent crime, continuing to focus on violence against women and girls, domestic abuse, knife-enabled violence, and sexual violence.
- B. Tackling drug-related harm, with a focus on increasing access to treatment and closer working across physical and mental healthcare.
- C. Early identification of, and interventions with children and young people at risk of exploitation or abuse, of misusing substances and of committing anti-social behaviour and offending,

4.4 Additional priorities: Improve accessibility and capacity of mental health provision for children, young people, and adults and increase the awareness of cyber-related harm and the impact on service users.

### **5. Community Safety Plan - 2022/23 progress**

To avoid duplication and maximise collaboration and co-ordination, the current community safety plan pulls together delivery activity from across a range of existing strategies and plans that deliver against the priorities identified above. Many of these plans, including the Children's Trust Plan, the Domestic Violence Strategy and the Youth Justice Plan are in the process of being updated.

**5.2 Priority A:** Tackling violent crime, continuing to focus on violence against women and girls, domestic abuse, knife-enabled violence, and sexual violence.

#### **5.2.1 Progress - Domestic Abuse Strategy**

The following commentary is taken from the Domestic Abuse Monitoring Framework (Q4 2022/23), produced by Sam Graves, Community Safety Analyst, Public Health Intelligence, which was considered at the last meeting of the Domestic Abuse Strategy Group in March 2023. Some progress has been made against all the priorities identified, but more focus is required on challenging and supporting perpetrators who want to change, and holding those who do not, to account.

**Demand and calls for service** - local data for 2022/23 shows that domestic abuse-related demand for children's MASH contacts has been on a slight overall downward trend since 2013/14. Conversely, demand has been increasing for children known to be living in families experiencing high risk domestic abuse - 17% (n121) increase since 2021/22. More work is needed to understand why this is. There was also a 21% (n47) increase in referrals to the Independent Sexual Violence Advocacy (ISVA) service in 2022/23 compared to the previous financial year. The increase in referrals may be due the increased media coverage on sexual violence and violence against women and girls, which may have led to increased confidence in reporting to the police/seek support.

**A. Promote healthy relationships** - good progress made with all schools now having their Health, Relationship & Sex Education school policy available, 23,680 unique views of the Safer Portsmouth Partnership website domestic abuse pages (which is a 23% increase since 2021/22), and an increase (15%) in Right to Know disclosures by police and 'Is this Love'

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delivered in all secondary schools across the city.

**B. Improve identification and assessment** - training is now provided by STOP Domestic Abuse and includes identification of and responding to perpetrators, as well as victims/survivors, and there has been an increase in numbers over the last two years.

Although the number of cases where domestic abuse is identified has reduced for children and families with a Single Assessment Framework, the number of adult safeguarding concerns triggering a Section 42 <sup>4</sup>has increased<sup>5</sup>. There has also been a reduction in the proportion of Society of St James clients where domestic abuse has been identified since the last time this data was available (5% in 2022/23 compared with 26% in 2017/18) and referrals from health providers to STOP Domestic Abuse remain very low.

**C. Challenge and support those who use abusive or unhealthy behaviours** - numbers of perpetrators receiving interventions are still low and there have been reductions in the portion of Up2U Creating Healthy Relationships clients experiencing a reduction in risk.

Feedback from Hampton Trust about CARA<sup>6</sup> completers (84% gave feedback), found that 89% said there had been an impact on their awareness of domestic violence and abuse and 87% said they experienced an impact on their relationships, how they viewed their behaviour and on levels of motivation to change.

**D. Hold to account those who use coercive control and violence** - while an increase in the number of perpetrators linked to high-risk offences suggests more people are committing more serious offences, a reduction in repeat occurrences may be positive. However, we cannot assume that all offences are coming to police attention, so caution should be applied when interpreting this finding.

Arrests resulting in a charge or caution have continued to fall over the last decade, although this trend appears to be stabilising with a marginal increase from 2021/22. The number of successful court outcomes for domestic abuse offences reduced by 9% from 2020/21, a continuation in the reducing trend since 2017/18. There has also been a reduction in the use of DVPNs and DVPOs<sup>7</sup> since 2021/22.

**E. Are we making a difference** - The risk reduction end of year snapshot for Refuge service users has been consistent at around 90% for the last three years. There has also been largely positive feedback to the client survey, with 92% of respondents feeling that they got the support they needed from STOP Domestic Abuse and 78% feeling safer.

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<sup>4</sup> Section 42 of the Care Act 2014 states that an enquiry must take place if there is reason to believe that abuse or neglect is taking place or is at risk of taking place.

<sup>5</sup> where DVA has been identified as being involved

<sup>6</sup> Cautioning And Relationship Abuse is a series of awareness raising workshops for perpetrators - delivered by The Hampton Trust across HIPS area.

<sup>7</sup> Domestic Violence Protection Notice, Domestic Violence Protection Order

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*"There was continuous support. I never felt as though I was on my own and felt secure knowing I could call them at any time."*

*"In the last few weeks it made me realise how low I had gotten and what I pulled myself out from. I don't think that I could have done this without support from them."*

*"Knowing that there was someone I can contact, and it wasn't all in my head. Being able to talk out loud and not being judged."*

*"My life isn't the same. My mental health is better and I am actually back at work. It has made a massive impact in my life. Has been amazing. I have a long way to go but feel like I have taken the first stepping stone."*

5.2.2 Whilst Hampshire Police regularly attend the DA Strategy Group, they have also produced a separate Domestic Abuse Strategy 2023-25, based on the Government's Tackling Domestic Abuse Plan, launched in March 2022. The Hampshire strategy has three priorities: prioritising prevention, supporting victims, and pursuing perpetrators, and compliments the Portsmouth Domestic Abuse Strategy.

5.2.3 A new domestic abuse strategy will be developed over the next 12 months and will form one of the 'pillars' of the Violence Against Women and Girls strategy - see Plan 23/24 below.

**5.3 Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs)** - sadly, since 2019 there have been five domestic homicides Portsmouth. One review has been approved by the Home Office and published, and one has been submitted awaiting approval. The other three are ongoing.

More work is required to understand what, if anything, is driving this increase, although Portsmouth still has the lowest number of domestic homicides in Hampshire. We know from local analysis that domestic abuse remains the most significant driver for violence in the city, that incidents of domestic abuse have increased, that 'violence without injury' has increased (often associated with domestic abuse), but that conviction rates have fallen.

**5.4 Tackling violent crime (knife enabled)** - although serious violence in Portsmouth has remained stable since 2018/19, knife enabled violence has increased by 11% (n19) although numbers are very small.

Since 2019 Home Office funding for violence reduction, via the Hampshire Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) hosted by the OPCC, was used to support early intervention in Portsmouth to prevent children and young people going on to commit violent crimes. New arrangements from the beginning of 2023 mean that this funding has been withdrawn locally and will be centralised at Hampshire, IOW, Portsmouth and Southampton (HIPS) level and managed by the VRU Director and his staff, based at the OPCC.

**5.5 Safer Streets** – following success in previous funding rounds two, three and Safety of Women at Night (SWaN), Portsmouth City Council in partnership with neighbouring authorities has been successful in drawing in a further £733,000 of funding for Safer Streets four.

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The latest programme mobilised in October 2022 is now well into delivery, with 11 projects over five local authority areas (Portsmouth, Isle of Wight, Fareham, Gosport and Havant) focusing on addressing VAWG and ASB in key locations. Within Portsmouth this funding has enabled continuation of the We Stand Together Scheme with more venues in key locations being trained to recognise and respond to sexual violence, a train the trainer approach to continuing to deliver Mentors in Violence prevention within schools and colleges, continued delivery of Community in Motion active bystander training, continued work with women in the sex industry, development of an interactive trail and restorative photography project in the Hotwalls area, and new lighting, cycle hoops and art commissioned in Guildhall Walk. A fifth round of funding has been announced and further details are awaited.

### **5.6 Plans 2023/24:**

**Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG)** - in November 2022 the Health and Wellbeing Board was updated on the local response to the VAWG agenda. The update identified several local workstreams already in progress, including the Domestic Abuse Strategy, and concluded that there was potential for a more connected response. Work has been undertaken to consider next steps, resulting in a proposal to establish a task and finish group to help develop a VAWG strategy.

The VAWG strategy will be framed around a continuum of understand, prevent, and respond, in alignment with the national statement of expectations, to develop a robust structure that will deliver priority outcomes. The VAWG strategy would remain within the governance and oversight of the HWB with existing workstreams such as the domestic abuse strategy sitting within the new structure. Other pillars of work including organisational change (White Ribbon), early intervention, and messaging (Is this Love), designing out crime (Safer Streets) and sexual crime will also be included.

**Serious Violence Duty** - the new Serious Violence Duty for local authorities is now in force<sup>8</sup>. The duty requires all local authorities to understand and address serious violence, using a public health approach. This is something we have always done in Portsmouth and is unlikely to have a significant impact on normal working arrangements. However, despite the duty resting with local authorities, the OPCC are keen to use funding provided by the Home Office to 'support' local areas by taking a co-ordinating role across the HIPS<sup>9</sup> area.

Helen Atkinson is the lead senior officer for Serious Violence under the Act<sup>10</sup>, with support from Emma Seria-Walker, Matthew Gummerson and Lisa Wills.

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<sup>8</sup> Police, Crime and Sentencing and Courts Act 2022

<sup>9</sup> Hampshire, IOW, Portsmouth and Southampton

<sup>10</sup> Police, Crime and Sentencing and Courts Act 2022



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### **6. Priority B: Tackling drug-related harm, with a focus on increasing access to treatment and closer working across physical and mental healthcare**

Work to address this priority is now led by the Combating Drugs Partnership (CDP) chaired by the Director of Public Health, Helen Atkinson. Since its inception in June 2022, the new partnership has approved a comprehensive needs assessment and three-year delivery plan (2023-26) including measures of progress. Six key recommendations arising from the needs assessment have been translated into three strategic priorities:

1. Disrupt local drugs supply chains and drug related crime;
2. Improve the quality, capacity and outcomes of our drug and alcohol prevention and treatment services
3. Reduce misuse and harm caused to young people by drugs and alcohol

#### **6.1 Portsmouth substance misuse needs assessment**

The needs assessment, approved in February 2023 includes the following key recommendations:

- I. To develop access to primary care services and expand homeless health care provision to address the significant unmet physical health need.
- II. To improve mental health pathways, with increased provision of co-located posts including mental health workers within recovery services and vice versa to address the significant unmet mental health need.
- III. Target resources to help reduce the high level of alcohol-related harm in the city, deal with an increase in demand for treatment services and tackle the low proportion of alcohol successful completions via an expanded alcohol-specific team.
- IV. Set up a task and finish group to investigate and implement measures to increase the proportion of successful alcohol and non-opiate treatment completions.
- V. Increase the capacity of provision for young people, considering standalone services as the needs of young people differ from that of adults (also 18-24years), and develop improved relationships with schools and services such as Portsmouth Youth Offending Team.
- VI. Move away from silo commissioning, for example, work closely with rough sleepers' commissioners, to understand how resources can be utilised and funding complement existing workstreams without duplicating work.

**6.1.1 Physical and mental health needs** were both re-occurring themes through many of the sections. Poor physical health was prominent in the impact section, particularly the data on drug-related deaths and it was a common concern amongst stakeholders and service users.

**6.1.2 Issues stemming from poor mental health** were the most common concerns from the stakeholder feedback, including lack of resources, too many barriers to accessing services, stigma and discrimination and a lack of co-ordination between services with mental health and substance misuse services not treating mental health and substances misuse as co-occurring



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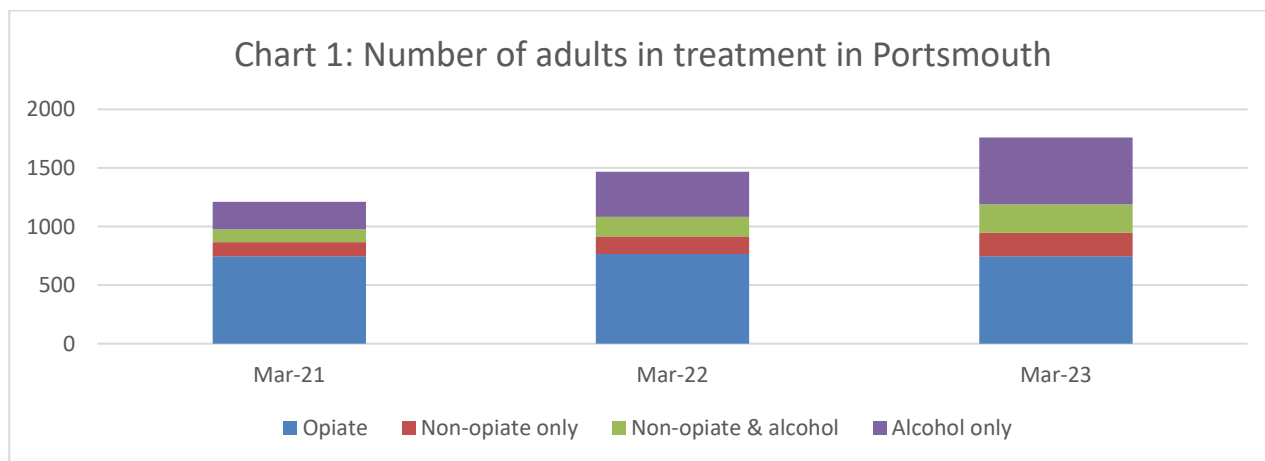
conditions. A large proportion of overdoses seen at A&E were due to paracetamol or antidepressant medications indicating a high level of mental health need in the city. The data for those in treatment also highlighted a high proportion had some level of mental health need, however approximately only half were getting any support or treatment.

**6.1.3 Young people's substance misuse** services in Portsmouth have been an area of disinvestment for some time. There has been a lack of capacity, with currently only one full time worker sitting within children social care. This lack of capacity has meant that referrals into the service and numbers in treatment are low. An increase in provision for young people would mean that pathways with key services such as the Portsmouth Youth Offending Team and education can be improved. Young people are more likely to try drugs than adults in Portsmouth and while it is believed that they are less likely to be dependent, the experimental stage increases a young person's risk of becoming dependent on drugs in adulthood. Young people's substance misuse contributes to much of the anti-social behaviour seen in the city and is a common factor in youth offending and young people's attendance at the emergency department.

As services are currently being resourced with an expected increase in funding over the next few years, it makes sense to work with other commissioners to understand what is happening in the city and where the unmet need and gaps in service provision are. Commissioned services should complement each other ensuring that those that need support in the city receive it.

## 6.2 Progress

There has been an increase of 20% (1468 to 1759) in the number of people in drug & alcohol treatment during 2022/23, building on an increase from the year before. Table 1 below highlights the total number of service users and the proportions of their presenting problem substance.



6.2.1 An unmet physical health need was a key theme identified through our needs assessment. The Recovery hub now runs 3 weekly health and wellbeing clinics which are always fully booked. People are offered a range of physical and mental health checks and interventions nurse led clinic.



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6.2.2 In 2020/21 around 60-65% of new presentations to drug and alcohol treatment have an identified mental health need. There has been a reduction in 2022-23 in the proportion of these new clients who have received no mental health treatment, from 49.0% to 43.7%. Within our rough sleeper drug and alcohol team we have employed a clinical psychologist and assistant psychologists to provide direct easy access psychological interventions to this hard to reach and complex group.

6.2.3 Due to staffing changes within our young person's service, we have seen a reduction in the number of young people receiving specialist treatment from 38 to just 15 new clients in the months to March 2023. This service is a priority for additional investment in 2023-24 with recruitment for a new team leader and additional staff under way.

6.2.4 Partnership working between different agencies to disrupt drug supply and drug related crime continues to develop, with increased co-ordination and information sharing. Projects such as the Southern Co-op funded Business crime navigator, see prolific shoplifters provided with support to access treatment services.

6.2.5 We have launched the Re:work project in Portsmouth, supporting people in treatment services to become work ready and then matching them with appropriate job placements. The Re:work team will then provide support to the employee and employer to sustain the job.

6.2.6 The Society of St. James, our lead provider for our substance misuse service, are currently scoping with the Integrated Care Board (ICB) the development of a support group for people who have a dependency to prescribed medication.

### ***7. Priority C: Early identification of and interventions with children and young people at risk of exploitation or abuse, of misusing substances, engaging in anti-social behaviour and of offending.***

Work to address Priority C is overseen by Children's Services and delivered mainly through the Youth Justice Plan alongside voluntary sector organisations across the city.

#### **7.1 Progress**

**7.1.2 Youth Justice Plan** - overall, Portsmouth made good progress against the initial aims and objectives set out in the 2021-23 plan. Key actions related to reducing first time entrants (FTE) include:

- Increase identification of SLCN<sup>11</sup> amongst children, recognising this as a critical driver of vulnerability to offending.
- Establish systems through MAT<sup>12</sup>s for identifying cohorts who may be at risk (e.g. via Childrens Insights Team)

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<sup>11</sup> Speech and Language Communication Needs

<sup>12</sup> Multi Agency Teams

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- Increase number of schools where Playful, Accepting, Curious and Empathetic (PACE) and restorative approaches are in place.

The rate of young people entering the criminal justice system has fallen from 287 per 100,000 of 10-17 population in December 2021, to 229 at the end of December 2022. These reductions evidence the impact of work done across the partnership to strengthen early help and prevention, and the implementation of the Youth Diversion Programme which has been in place since November 2021.

Early intervention and prevention is a key element of reducing the number of young people entering the criminal justices system. Early (youth crime) prevention, is carried out by a range of partner agencies and voluntary organisations across the city, many of whom provide universal services and/or offer diversionary activity and access via self-referral. This includes our schools, youth and play services and housing, for example.

As of April 2023, Turnaround Youth Justice (TYJ) has offered interventions for children on the cusp of justice. With a Parenting Support Worker already based within the Youth Justice Service, and a Family Support Worker seconded from Early Help, this service will be able to offer support which has not previously been available to a number of young people and develop learning which will support future development of both Youth Justice and Early Help.

More detail is available in the Youth Justice Plan 2023-25 - see below.

### **7.2 Plans 2023/24:**

7.2.1 Reducing FTE continues to be a key area of focus for the Youth Justice Plan for 2023-25.

7.2.2 In 2023-24 the Youth Diversion Programme will be evaluated by measuring outcomes and impact in partnership with Police colleagues, who will lead on that work. We will revise or enhance our delivery as required. We have also created a new Community Engagement Co-Ordinator post within the YOT team with a view to increasing the opportunities for diversion away from crime through community links, arts and sports initiatives.

7.2.3 We will further develop our partnership working with the Early Help and Prevention service and the wider Early Help System by developing the Youth Justice offer from the five Family Hubs in the City and supporting the ongoing development of the Early Help System by working with partners to embed the Supporting Families Outcomes Framework which includes outcome measures around children being safe from abuse and exploitation and supporting children, young people and their families to meet outcomes around crime prevention and tackling crime.

7.2.4 In Portsmouth, our partnership approach to Serious Youth Violence is delivered in collaboration with the Hampshire Violence Reduction Unit. The Hampshire VRU Director and Portsmouth Violence Reduction Manager both attend our local Management Board meetings. We will work together over the course of the next 12 months to enhance our understanding of the issue and develop future plans based on our existing partnership.

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7.2.5 There are also plans to establish closer links with the over-arching Health and Wellbeing Board via Youth Justice Partnership Management Board members to support increased strategic awareness and more informed decision making.

### **8. Additional priorities**

8.1. In addition to the three priorities above, the SA identified the need to a) improve accessibility and capacity of mental health provision for children, young people and adults and b) increased awareness of cyber related harm.

8.2 Improved access to mental health provision is led by the NHS 'No wrong door' programme and further work identified in the Combatting Drugs Partnership Plan. Cybercrime is a national issue and the Online Safety Bill is still making its way through the parliamentary system. The Safer Portsmouth website has recently been updated with information about how to protect yourself from being scammed and what to do if your online security is compromised.

### **9. National context**

There have been some national developments since last year's report that will influence work over the next 12 months:

**9.1** *The Serious Violence Duty* for Local Authorities came into force in January 2023. Funding to support the new duty is being administered by the OPCC alongside the operational for of the Violence Reduction Unit. The co-ordination of the VRU has now been centralised under a new director, and funding for early intervention in Portsmouth has been withdrawn.

**9.2** *Domestic Abuse Act 2021*- Part 4 of the DA Act places statutory duties on Tier 1 local authorities to understand the need for, and fund, safe accommodation and support for victims and their children. Funding allocations were agreed by the Domestic Abuse Strategy Group in autumn 2022.

**9.3** *National Policing Requirement - violence against women and girls* - The strategic policing requirement for 2023 introduces violence against women and girls as a national threat. Police and Crime Commissioners and Chief Constables of forces across the UK must now consider the strategic policing requirement when carrying out their functions.

**9.4** *Community Safety Partnerships - national consultation* is underway, led by the Home Office but instigated by an internal government review of the role of Police and Crime Commissioners. The review identified the need to 'improve the efficiency and functioning of community safety partnerships'.

**9.5** *ASB Action Plan* was published in May setting out the response to one of the Prime Minister's priorities. There is no requirement, at the moment, for local areas to have a local ASB Action Plan.



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### **10. Community Safety Plan 2025**

10.1 As previously explained, the new community safety plan will be based on the a) data analysis from 2023-24 in the full Strategic Assessment. Developing a new delivery framework pulling together activity from across the council and partner agencies to address the identified priorities.

10.2 Delivery activity will be summarised from a range of existing plans and strategies already in development. All these plans are overseen by existing multi-agency governance arrangements.

- Youth Justice Plan
- Portsmouth Safeguarding Children Plan
- Social Emotional and Mental Health Strategy
- Adults Safeguarding Adult Board Strategic Plan
- Domestic Abuse Strategy - (supported by local police DA improvement plan and aligned with the Hampshire Constabulary Domestic Abuse Strategy) - reported to the DA Strategy Group
- Mental Health Transformation Programme - No Wrong Door - Hampshire and IOW response to national NHS funded programme.<sup>13</sup>
- Combatting Drugs Partnership - delivery plan

10.3 The whole community safety plan will therefore be updated once these with other key strategies and plans in the city in the first quarter of 2024.

### **11. Conclusion**

Overall, good progress has been made against the priorities identified in the Community Safety Plan and plans are in place to continue appropriate focus in the coming 12 months.

.....  
Signed by Acting Supt Paul Markham

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

<sup>13</sup> <https://www.england.nhs.uk/mental-health/adults/cmhs/>



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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

**Appendix 1 - Community Safety Plan for Portsmouth - available here:**

<https://www.saferportsmouth.org.uk/our-plans/community-safety-plan-2021-22/>

**Appendix 2 - Key messages from Strategic Assessment Update - September 2022:**

- Opportunities to commit crimes in public places have largely returned to pre-pandemic levels, but increased use of online platforms for working, shopping and socialising mean that there are still increased opportunities for online exploitation and cybercrime to take place.
- There were 28,119 police recorded crimes in Portsmouth during 2021/22, which equates to a crime rate of 131 per 1,000 residents and is higher than the average for other similar local authority areas (111 per 1,000). See Figure 1 below.
- Consideration of several data sources suggest that overall levels of crime have remained stable in comparison with 2019/20. This is consistent with the national picture, where reductions in acquisitive crime were offset by increases in cybercrime.
- Violence with injury and most serious violence have remained fairly stable since 2017/18, with the exception 2020/21 where lower levels were seen as a result of restrictions and behaviour changes associated with the pandemic.
- There have been increases in stalking and harassment, domestic abuse, violence without injury, sexual offences, robbery, knife-enabled serious violence, possession of a weapon, drug offences, and public order offences since 2019/20, although some of these increases may be driven by improved recording, increased reporting, or police activity.
- Domestic abuse continues to be the largest driver of violent crime, accounting for 44% of assaults recorded by police.
- There is some evidence that some victims/survivors of domestic abuse may be experiencing more and frequent incidents, while there has also been a reduction in charges and domestic abuse cases heard at court, highlighting the need to focus on holding medium and high-risk perpetrators to account.
- Data is showing a positive increase in awareness of unhealthy and abusive relationships, with the continuing success of the 'Is This Love' Campaign increasing hits to the domestic abuse web pages, more schools having their policies available, more 'Right to know'



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disclosures and 'Right to ask requests,' and more concerns raised by maternity services. There has also been an increase in domestic abuse being identified within adult social care, adult mental health services and children and families undergoing SAFs compared to a couple of years ago.

### ***Appendix 3 - Positive relationships***

The Health and Wellbeing Strategy includes a focus on the development of positive relationships in the community and in schools to help reduce conflict and anti-social behaviour, and ultimately, crime.

**Schools - work** has progressed in many of Portsmouth schools to embed relational and restorative practice:

- 31 schools (of 62) signed up in Waves one and two
- Continued strong inclusion outcomes in schools further ahead on implementation (e.g. evidence of lower suspensions)
- Coaching in place for Heads and Senior Leaders
- Evaluation model emerging based on Theory of Change
- Self-assessment 'rubric' in place for schools
- £500k of resources secured for 3-year programme

**Hotwalls and Camber Dock Restorative Support Group** - work to build positive relationships across the generational divide in Old Portsmouth is a long-term project. Portsmouth Mediation Service, commissioned by the council, have worked with residents, businesses, organisations, artists, fishermen, Portsmouth International Port, bringing people together to find positive solutions to some of the perennial problems arising in the hot spring and summer months. The group met monthly from April 2022 and twice monthly from April 23 in the BAR Building on the Camber Dock.

Additional funding support has been provided by the Police and Crime Commissioner to increase the number of youth outreach workers based in the area during the summer holidays and increase the availability of diversionary activities for young visitors including paddle boarding, kayaking, photography, and other sporting activity.

An evaluation of the work will take place in the autumn to assess the impact of the work on the area.