

Communities Scrutiny Commission

8 February 2021



Report of: Safer Communities Manager

Title: Community Safety Strategic Assessment / Needs Analysis Update

Ward: City-wide

Officers Presenting Report: Clare Sims, Safer Communities Manager

Recommendation: For the Communities Scrutiny Commission to note the report

The significant issues in the report are:

The Safer Communities Team are currently preparing a paper to present to the Keeping Communities Safe Delivery Board on 8th April 2021 outlining evidence based recommendations for the key themes we want to see prioritised in the Keeping Bristol Safe Partnership Strategic Plan. The existing KBSP strategic plan is scheduled for review summer 2021.

Whilst undertaking a quantitative data analysis of agreed key Community Safety & Crime Reduction themes in Bristol we are also drawing on the findings from the pending BCC Drug & Alcohol Strategy, Public Health led Hate Crime/Incidents Needs Assessment and other relevant sources to inform the recommendations.

Preliminary emerging themes and Community Safety priorities have been identified.

We intend to apply a refreshed, strength-based, Public Health approach to our forward plan, based on a five 'Ps' model.



1. The Safer Communities Team has recently undergone a change in leadership and Directorate and it became apparent that the highly experienced and highly skilled team of officers required a re-fresh to their work plan. Subsequently this fell in line with the relatively newly formed Partnership Governance arrangements in Bristol, whereby Community Safety Partnership duties now fall to the Keeping Bristol Safe Partnership Executive.
2. The Keeping Bristol Safe Business team has produced a 3 year Partnership Strategic plan with individual business plans for the three Delivery Groups – Adults, Children & Families and Safer Communities. This strategic plan will be refreshed in the summer of 2021 and it is our intention to provide an evidence based suite of recommendations to drive this work forward and contribute to making a real difference to Bristol – a safe place to live.
3. There are a number of threads contributing to identifying the BCC Safer Communities Teams' work-plan and recommendations for the refreshed KBSP Strategic Plan and to date include:
 - i) The BCC Community Safety Strategic Assessment (draft)
 - ii) The BCC Drug & Alcohol Strategy (draft)
 - iii) A Public Health led Hate Crime/Hate incident Needs Assessment (draft)
 - iv) We will also draw on the Mayoral Commission's report for Domestic Abuse (soon to be published).
 - v) Consultation with the Safer Communities Team Crime Reduction Project Officers – drawing on their subject matter expertise and wealth of knowledge about the City of Bristol
4. We will incorporate findings from any other source that can contribute to our Community Safety needs assessment going forward. This will be an ongoing tactic implemented to ensure that our work plan remains responsive, innovative and collaborative. Additional ideas going forward include collaboration and data share with partners such as Probation Services, Health and third sector partners such as the Bristol Drugs Project and the Bristol Hate Crime & Discrimination Service.
5. The Community Safety Strategic Assessment/Needs Assessment

This assessment is being led by our Insights Partnership Data Analyst and commenced in September 2020. A bibliographic research analysis was undertaken to review existing core cities' community safety strategic assessments and strategic plans. This provided an overview of the community safety priorities in other core cities of which we have subsequently considered. In addition to a review of other Core Cities' assessments/strategies, the One City Plan, the Safer Bristol Crime & Disorder Strategic Assessment (2015) and the Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Needs Assessment (2018) are also being considered as part of the assessment.
6. We have identified a number of key themes repeated within multiple core city community safety strategic assessments and strategic plans and we have adopted a plan to investigate these key themes within Bristol as part of the Bristol Community Safety Strategic Assessment:
 - Anti-Social Behavior
 - Modern Slavery
 - Child Sexual & Child Criminal Exploitation

- Violence against Women (including Domestic Abuse, Honour-Based Violence and Female Genital Mutilation)
 - Drugs and Alcohol
 - Hate Crime
 - Serious Violence
 - Night Time economy
7. The analysis is currently reviewing all offender/victim age ranges and sub-categories within the above themes are being set out to identify issues and emerging patterns that are prevalent in Bristol. Offender/victim profiles will be determined for these themes and where possible, high risk areas or hotspots will be mapped.
8. The primary sources of data being used for this analysis include data from Avon & Somerset Constabulary and data extracted from the Think Family Database (TFD). The TFD is a consolidated person record from over 30 different sources developed by Insight Bristol, a multi-agency integrated analytics hub based at Bristol. Joint Strategic Needs Assessment documents and Public Surveys (e.g. Quality of Life Survey) will also be reviewed along with data sought and shared with partner agencies within the City.
9. The intended outcome of the Bristol Community Safety Strategic Assessment will be to assist in setting priorities for the future delivery of community safety programmes in the City incorporated into the KBSP strategic plan.
10. The draft Bristol Community Safety Strategic Assessment will be completed by the end of January 2021. The Safer Communities Team and key partners will then review its findings and draw recommendations with the final Assessment being presented to the KBSP through the Keeping Communities Delivery Group in April 2021.

11. Emerging Themes

As stated above, an interim consultation with the Bristol City Council Safer Communities Team has been undertaken and we have begun to scope out some key themes and priorities for our work plan and our recommendations to the Partnership Strategic Plan. In doing so we referred to our statutory duties, we have drawn on what we already know about Bristol and explored the preliminary findings from the needs assessment. The final Community Safety Needs Analysis & Strategic Assessment will ultimately provide evidence to support the final recommendations.

12. Please see the table below that outlines the emerging themes that we have identified so far. Please note these are preliminary and will need to be evidence based in order to feature in the final recommendations presented to the Keeping Communities Safe Delivery Group in April 2021. Also as stated above, consideration will also be given to priorities already set out in the One City Plan and the Joint OPCC Crime Plan.

13.

i)	Tackling Violence	Street based violence, female genital Mutilation, Honour Based Violence, Domestic Abuse, Youth Violence & Night Time Economy.
ii)	Responding to Unlawful Drugs	Drug Supply, Drug Dealing & Drug Distribution – to include County Lines.
iii)	Eradicating Prejudice & Discrimination that leads to Hate Crime	Education, Early Intervention, Supporting Victims & Understanding Communities.
iv)	Strengthening Communities	Anti-Social Behaviour, Problem Solving, Contextual Safeguarding, Feeling Safe & Responding to Acquisitive Crime.
v)	Counter Terrorism	Strengthening our Prevent agenda & Channel Safeguarding Process.
vi)	Protecting the most vulnerable	Victims of Crime, Modern Slavery and protecting children and vulnerable adults.

14. The Bristol Drugs & Alcohol Strategy

Bristol City Council has very recently undertaken a Public Health led review of Drug & Alcohol issues in the City and has drafted a Drug & Alcohol Strategy. Consultation on this strategy has very recently closed and the Council are a step closer to having a detailed analysis of the City's needs and priorities in this area. For this reason, rather than duplicating this work, we will instead draw upon its findings and incorporate these into our Work Plan and our submission of recommendations to the KBSP.

15. Bristol's existing Drugs & Alcohol Strategy expires in 2020. This presented as an opportunity to develop a new, city-wide strategy which looks to address issues relating to all substances (not just alcohol, but all drugs) within one document. Bristol City Council has worked with partners across the City to draft a proposed new Drug and Alcohol Strategy on behalf of the Keeping Communities Safe Delivery Group (of the Keeping Bristol Safe Partnership).
16. Prior to presenting our Community Safety paper to the KBSP in April, we will draw upon the Drug & Alcohol Strategy's findings in order to define clear evidence-based recommendations that will outline how we will reduce the impact that drug and alcohol misuse has on our communities and their safety. This will include focusing on drug and alcohol related offending and the social costs of substance misuse and dependency on individuals, families and communities.

17. The Hate Crime/Hate Incident Needs Assessment

A Hate Crime/Hate Incident Needs Assessment is currently being undertaken within BCC by Public Health colleagues. Public Health Registrar – Hannah Thornton is completing a detailed needs assessment of Hate Crime & Incidents in Bristol. The findings from this assessment will be drawn upon to shape the priorities for the BCC Safer Communities Team and will provide evidence-based recommendations that will be put to the KCS Delivery Group in April 2021 with a view to being incorporated into the KBSP three year strategic plan.

18. The key objectives of phase 1 of the Hate Crime/Hate Incident Needs Assessment are as follows:

- Provide evidence and best practice review for hate crime/incidents a) prevention and b) service provision
- Summarise reported hate crime police data and trends – victim and perpetrator demographics, geography, motivation and classification of crime
- Summarise data relating to unreported hate crime – to include collaboration with partners such as the Bristol Hate Crime and Discrimination Services, BCC housing & SWAN advocacy support
- Summarise similar/ core city comparator data

Phase 2 of the Hate Crime/Hate Incident Needs Assessment intends to include stakeholder interviews, service mapping and so forth.

19. This work commenced in November 2020 and is scheduled to be concluded by April 2021 when it will be presented to the KCS Delivery Group. Phase 1 of the assessment is scheduled to be available for consultation with internal partners on 28th January 2021 whereby phase 2 will follow and include extended stakeholder consultation and recommendations will be drawn from its findings.

20. Whilst compiling evidence from the sources outlined above to inform the Community Safety and Crime Reduction priorities for BCC and the KBSP, we are also giving careful consideration to the 'approach' we plan to undertake in setting out and delivering on the recommendations and objectives we set. We intend to apply a strength-based & Public Health approach to Community Safety and we endeavor to apply contextual safeguarding and trauma informed principles to our work going forward. We also aspire to apply a desistance approach to our practices supported by evidence based frameworks. Initially we are exploring the notion of using the 5 P's framework as similarly featured within the Government's CONTEST, Domestic Abuse and Modern Slavery agendas. Preliminary thought are as follows;

- i) Prevention
- ii) Provision (of services)
- iii) Partnership
- iv) Pursuing (perpetrators)
- v) Protect (safeguarding the vulnerable)

21. Public Sector Equalities Duties – The Needs Assessments are endeavoring to consider a range of demographics which will include looking at the protected characteristics of victims and perpetrators. We will be considering what more can be done to promote equality in relation to tackling crime and disorder that disproportionately affects minority sectors within our communities. Prior to concluding our recommendations we will be seeking council from partners who specialize in advocating on behalf of minority groups in Bristol. We will be consulting with and taking advice from with the BCC Equalities Team and if deemed appropriate we will carry out an Equality Impact Assessment prior to submission of our findings.

 22. To conclude, we ask that the Communities Scrutiny Commission note this report that outlines the progress to date and the forward plan to undertake a detailed needs assessment of the community safety and crime and disorder themes presented in Bristol. The BCC Safer Communities Team Work Plan and the priority recommendations to be presented to KBSP in April 2021 will be borne out of evidence-based need assessments as described above. The recommendations will be underpinned by a collaborative, strength-based, Public Health approach with measureable outcomes that will make a real difference to the lives experienced by the citizens of Bristol.
-