

# Community Safety

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This means:

- Making communities safer
- Identifying the signs and symptoms of domestic abuse and sexual violence and providing an effective response
- Tackling drugs and alcohol
- Reducing re-offending
- Responding to the threat of organised crime groups
- Tackling Modern Day Slavery
- Addressing the threat of Child Sexual Exploitation

## Why is this a priority for the partners?

As a Public Services Board we work in partnership to implement strategies that are in line with legislation and wider priorities.<sup>1</sup> Our statutory requirements are to:

- ✓ Address crime and disorder to benefit communities and visitors;
- ✓ Tackle substance misuse to benefit the wider community where drug use can disrupt communities and residents can be victims of crime and anti social behaviour;
- ✓ Reducing reoffending to support community rehabilitation;
- ✓ Increase reporting of incidents of domestic abuse and sexual violence to increase family and individual safety;
- ✓ Combatting modern slavery and Organised Crime Gangs;
- ✓ Reducing the risk of sexual abuse including Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE); and
- ✓ Making our communities safer so that they can thrive

## What is the evidence behind this story?

North Wales Police assessed crime and disorder issues affecting communities across Flintshire in April 2017. The areas that were identified as high risk priorities were:

- Domestic Abuse - due to the broad impact to the victim (physical, psychological and financial), the number of recorded crimes and an increasing trend.
- Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) – the psychological impact of CSE upon the victim can be very high so working with partners is important to both prevent and manage the effects of CSE. Although we assess organised CSE to be rare in North Wales, we know it has occurred and it is probable that further incidents will be identified. There are also an increasing number of children at risk of CSE.

<sup>1</sup> These objectives draw upon Section 6 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1998 (as amended by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011) as well as the Police and Crime Commissioner's objectives. These priorities have been adopted by the North Wales Safer Communities Board in their plan, and also locally by the Flintshire Public Services Board.

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- Modern Day Slavery – It is likely that a wide range of services will identify increasing numbers of incidents. Victims of Modern Day Slavery do not always recognise themselves as victims so recognising the signs and sharing intelligence will prove to be important in combating this
- Organised Crime Gangs and the supply of illegal drugs - threat, risk and harm in Flintshire has increased over the past few years

## What are we committed to doing?

- ✓ Support vulnerable people to prevent them becoming victims of crime
- ✓ Increase confidence in reporting domestic abuse and work with MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) to manage the levels of repeat domestic abuse
- ✓ Increase confidence in reporting sexual violence / increase awareness amongst young people of domestic abuse, sexual violence and violence against women
- ✓ Improve services and their response for all victims of VAWDASV (violence against women domestic abuse and sexual violence)
- ✓ Tackle and address substance misuse in the county
- ✓ Reduce re-offending
- ✓ Develop a multi-agency approach to awareness raising, victim care, prevention and investigation of Modern Day Slavery, CSE and organised crime
- ✓ Tackle the Organised Crime Gangs that supply Class A drugs

## What specific actions will we take to support these commitments?

- ✓ Continue to promote the Online Watch Link (OWL) system as a means of engaging with members of our communities
- ✓ Work with the Police and Crime Commissioner's 'victim hub' to ensure an enhanced service to victims of crime
- ✓ Support partners to tackle 'doorstep crime' in our communities
- ✓ Implement and promote Public Space Protection Order (PSPOs)
- ✓ Maintain the multi-agency intelligence led approach to tackle Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) through monthly tasking and ad hoc professionals meetings
- ✓ Raise awareness of violence against women by supporting the International White Ribbon Campaign on a local and regional level
- ✓ Continue to monitor the effectiveness of MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) through the local strategic groups, ensuring they are operating to 'Save Lives' minimum standards
- ✓ Develop a collaborative approach to standardising the work of the Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) service across the region
- ✓ Implementation of the Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (Wales) National Training Framework
- ✓ Local gaps in service are fed into regional commissioning and planning cycles

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- ✓ Respond effectively to emerging issues with consistent approaches in terms of awareness/treatment and recovery
- ✓ Implementation of recommendations emerging from the Harm Reduction and Drug Poisoning Review Group
- ✓ Target repeat offenders (adults) via an Integrated Offender Management (IOM) process. Identifying those who cause the most harm (prolific offenders) and addressing their re-offending behaviour
- ✓ Targeting young offenders to reduce offending and re-offending by implementing the Flintshire Youth Justice Service Plan
- ✓ Share intelligence amongst partners to understand the risks of Modern Day Slavery; Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and organised crime
- ✓ Set up multi agency Organised Crime Gang (OCG) panels and map OCG's in Flintshire
- ✓ Work in partnership to disrupt at a local level – targeting problem people, premises and activities resulting from Organised Crime

## Where should we see an impact?

- ✓ People's confidence to report appropriately to partners increased
- ✓ Resilience in communities improved leading to a reduction in demand
- ✓ Rehabilitation and community integration increased
- ✓ Realistic expectations provided to the public
- ✓ Recognition of the signs and symptoms of domestic abuse, sexual violence and modern slavery by public and voluntary sector agencies
- ✓ High risk cases of domestic abuse dealt with effectively and a reduction in the repeat victimisation achieved
- ✓ Awareness of the impacts of adverse childhood experiences amongst partners increased.
- ✓ Vulnerable people prevented from becoming victims of crime
- ✓ Substance misuse tackled collaboratively on a local and regional level
- ✓ Committed regional partnership approach to addressing crime and disorder continued
- ✓ Better sharing of intelligence across partner agencies
- ✓ Increased partnership action to tackle Modern Day Slavery, CSE and organised crime

## Links with other priorities:

- ✓ **Well-being and Independent Living** – reduction in substance misuse, reduction in crime, reduction in incidents of domestic abuse, increased likelihood of physical activity outside of the home
- ✓ **Resilient Communities** – people being more able to take responsibility for their own health by accessing outdoor spaces in safety
- ✓ **Environment** – people feeling safer when accessing green spaces in their community
- ✓ **Economy and Skills** – developing skills for employment opportunities, reducing worklessness and the impact of social reform