



WEST OXFORDSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN 2011-12



WEST OXFORDSHIRE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP ROLLING PLAN



Introduction

The West Oxfordshire Community Safety Partnership was established following the introduction of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The Act placed a legal obligation on responsible authorities as identified in the Act, to formulate and implement a strategy in their local authority area to reduce crime, disorder and substance misuse.

In West Oxfordshire the responsible authorities include: Thames Valley Police, Thames Valley Police Authority, NHS Oxfordshire, West Oxfordshire District Council, Oxfordshire County Council, Oxfordshire County Council Fire and Rescue Service, and the Thames Valley Probation Service.

The role of the partnership is to be an effective vehicle for tackling crime, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse, reoffending and behaviour adversely affecting the local environment. Its strength is that by working together it can achieve far more and with fewer resources, than each agency working in isolation.

Proposed changes in legislation and the Government's commitment¹ to free up community safety partnerships from unnecessary bureaucracy provides a real opportunity to deliver services in a more integrated way.

This strategy aims to address the issues identified in the Oxfordshire Strategic Intelligence Assessment (SIA) of Community Safety which was produced in August 2010. The SIA contains local intelligence and the Government's new priorities for Community Safety. It provides evidence which support the priorities in the strategy which will be reviewed annually.

The strategy is divided into three categories which when given equal focus which aims to ensure West Oxfordshire remains a safe place to live, work and visit:

- Community Focus – Initiatives that affect whole communities/neighbourhoods where we live, work and visit.
- Focus on the Individual- Initiatives that support or prevent individuals from becoming a victim of crime or anti-social behaviour.
- Focus on the Perpetrator – Initiatives that prevent or enforce against offenders or those 'at risk' of offending.



1 <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/publications/about-us/corporate-publications/business-plan-2011-15/business-plan?view=Binary>

The aims of the partnership for 2011-12 are outlined below:

- **Neighbourhood Priorities**

To respond and deal effectively with neighbourhood concerns which currently include, anti-social behaviour, environmental crime, including litter and graffiti, speeding and parking.

- **Serious Acquisitive Crime**

To support Thames Valley Police in the reduction of acquisitive crime across the district.

- **Vulnerable Communities**

To support vulnerable victims of crime and decrease the levels of crime associated with vulnerable communities including domestic violence, young people, prolific and priority offenders, substance misuse, migrant communities and ethnic minorities.

- **Even Leaner and Fitter**

Working within the changing public landscape and the big society to respond to the challenges facing partnerships to be as effective and productive as possible in the coming year whilst undertaking its core responsibilities to reduce crime, disorder, substance misuse and prevent reoffending.



COMMUNITY FOCUS- INITIATIVES THAT AFFECT WHOLE COMMUNITIES/ NEIGHBOURHOODS WHERE WE LIVE, WORK OR VISIT.

Achievements during the last three years

- **CCTV**

The implementation of a new CCTV scheme for Carterton town centre as well as the expansion of the existing CCTV network for Witney with new cameras at Marriott's Walk Shopping Centre, Corn Street and the junction of Bridge Street and Mill Street.

- **Neighbourhood Policing**

Successful completion of the roll out of neighbourhood policing across the district. Establishment of five Neighbourhood Action Groups (NAG's) chaired by local residents, supported by specialist Neighbourhood Officers and Police Community Support Officers. NAGs are proactive problem solving groups who work in cooperation with local agencies to tackle community safety priorities highlighted by the local community.

- **Nightsafe Relaunch**

The Nightsafe scheme originally launched in 2005 was relaunched in 2009. Its aim is for the Police and Licensing Authority to work with local premises licence holders to promote responsible drinking, create a safe night time economy, provide public reassurance through high visibility policing and reduce violent crime resulting from alcohol misuse.

- **Launch of the Neighbourhood Wardens Service by West Oxfordshire District Council**

Wardens are fully trained to issue on and off street parking contraventions alongside fixed penalty notices for environmental crime such as littering and dog fouling.

- **Safe and Confident Project**

Participation in the Safe and Confident Project which used a new communication and engagement approach to deliver crime and disorder messages across the county. Evaluation of new techniques like Facebook and YouTube has shown, 83.1% of responders are now likely or very likely to help identify crimes and 73.2% of responders are now likely or very likely to trust that the police and council will deal with the crimes reported.

- **Outcomes**

The outcomes from these achievements include:

- In 2010/11 theft of and from motor vehicles has been reduced by 16.7% and 8.9% respectively.
- In 2010/11 All crime in West Oxfordshire was reduced by 14%.



COMMUNITY FOCUS- INITIATIVES THAT AFFECT WHOLE COMMUNITIES/ NEIGHBOURHOODS WHERE WE LIVE, WORK OR VISIT.

- In 2010/11 violent crime in West Oxfordshire was reduced by 23% and reported criminal damage by over 20%.
- Between 2009/11 levels of fly tipping have been reduced by 14%.



Community Focus Plan

In 2011-12 West Oxfordshire Community Safety Partnership will :

- Explore the Big Society concept to ensure it is encompassed in the district's approach to neighbourhood policing/management and all the work of the partnership
- Undertake a review of the public CCTV scheme to ensure value for money and effective level of service
- Robustly support all the district's Pub Watch schemes and enhance the Nightsafe package to licensed premises.
- Coordinate with the Safe and Confident Project team to ensure all appropriate agencies in West Oxfordshire are briefed on the new communications and engagement App to facilitate its rollout across the district
- Support the multi agency plan following the expansion of Carterton and RAF Brize Norton of managing the potential associated crime and disorder risks.
- To work with the Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) and the responsible authorities under the Licensing Act 2003 to ensure county drug and alcohol campaigns access local licensed premises.
- Continue to support Neighbourhood Action Groups and work with Neighbourhood Police Teams and other agencies to tackle local priorities.

We will monitor our success by :

- Monitoring the effectiveness of CCTV in reducing crime and disorder
- Maintaining a low level of repeat offenders (not below 10%) on the town centre disorder scheme and monitoring the number of Pub Watch bans
- Sampling the public on their perceived safety of living in West Oxfordshire
- Maintain the West Oxfordshire position within the top quartile of all crime per 1,000 population within the Thames Valley.

FOCUS ON THE INDIVIDUAL-INITIATIVES THAT SUPPORT OR PREVENT INDIVIDUALS FROM BECOMING A VICTIM OF CRIME OR ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR



Achievements to date

- **Security improvements for vulnerable elderly residents**

A scheme was introduced to offer vulnerable or elderly victims a free fitted door lock/chain after receiving crime reduction advice. Particularly vulnerable victims of distraction burglary were also offered free installation of memo cams on their front doors.

- **Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)**

The Partnership has funded a number of police operations either in anti-social behaviour hotspots or at peak times such as Halloween and Fireworks night. In addition, the Partnership has published its minimum standards in relation to anti-social behaviour for the general public and in 2010 Thames Valley Police introduced its risk assessment process for all victims of ASB.

- **Operation Jugular**

Due to the geography of the district and the relative affluence of many of its residents, cross border acquisitive crime is an ongoing issue for West Oxfordshire. Operation Jugular, a joint initiative between the Police and the Partnership, was successful in raising the profile of acquisitive crime and crime prevention ideas for the individual. A staged theft from a vehicle was undertaken to attract media attention along with a crime reduction street fair incorporating crime prevention technology ie CCTV cameras, Selecta DNA- property marking, neighbourhood watch information, and a trap car exhibition.

- **Hate Crime**

The Partnership has been working closely with MANTRA a multi agency initiative to introduce third party reporting and referral system for hate crimes.

- **Domestic Violence**

In West Oxfordshire domestic violence is a priority, launching and maintaining its successful sanctuary scheme in the last three years. The Partnership contributes at a county level to the Domestic Violence Champions scheme, the Independent Domestic Violence Advisory Service and the Domestic Violence Court in Oxford.

- **Outcomes**

The following outcomes have been achieved:

- In 2010/11 ASB in West Oxfordshire was reduced by 21% and reported criminal damage by over 20%.
- The number of high risk repeat incidents of domestic violence has been reduced to 20% since 2009.

FOCUS ON THE INDIVIDUAL-INITIATIVES THAT SUPPORT OR PREVENT INDIVIDUALS FROM BECOMING A VICTIM OF CRIME OR ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Focus on the Individual Plan

In 2011-12 West Oxfordshire Community Safety Partnership will :

- Incorporate the outcomes of the National Antisocial Behaviour Strategy into our local protocols. Work towards a consistent approach to ASB across all our partner agencies.
- Support the rollout of the MANTRA hate crime reporting system across West Oxfordshire.
- Continue to focus on the reduction of serious acquisitive crime and support victims.
- Incorporate the National Violence against Women and Girls Strategy into our local protocols.
- Work with the DAAT to ensure local schools have a range of educational packages available to them.
- Continue to support the work of the Reducing The Risk charity and the partnership funded domestic abuse outreach worker locally.

We will monitor our success by :

- Reducing serious acquisitive crime by 5% (TVP target).
- Measuring the number of domestic abuse victims compared with 2010/11.
- Improve satisfaction levels for victims of domestic burglary, violence and vehicle crime above those achieved in 2010/11 and the TVP target.
- Continue to monitor and intervene to deal with anti social behaviour.



FOCUS ON THE PERPETRATOR - INITIATIVES THAT PREVENT OR ENFORCE AGAINST OFFENDERS OR THOSE AT RISK OF OFFENDING

Achievements to date

- **The Partnership funded the expansion of SKATE**

The young persons detached outreach project run by Base 33 (a local charity) expanded to include Carterton as well as Witney. Vulnerable young people are diverted and supported to seek help for a variety of issues including drugs, alcohol, housing, employment and sexual health.

- **Young Persons Consultation**

A successful consultation day was held for young people from all the district's secondary schools supported by our local MP David Cameron who opened the event. It gave them an insight into the various local community safety and crime and disorder issues and allowed them the opportunity to tell the Partnership what they thought we should focus our resources on.

- **Family Intervention Project**

The district was successful in its bid to become part of the Youth Offending Service Family Intervention Project, which supports vulnerable families where one of the parents has been or is in custody and the family is at risk of being made homeless through anti-social behaviour. The project supports all the family members with an intensive schedule of support for all their needs.

- **Launch of Youth Management Action Group (YMAG)**

The YMAG is a local initiative to coordinate the resources of the Police, Partnership, Youth Offending Service, Base 33 and Housing Services around the most vulnerable youths in the district. Meeting on a weekly basis the initiative tracks the progress of a list of the most vulnerable and coordinates the support being offered.

- **Substance Misuse Services**

Since 2009 SMART CJS (Criminal Justice Service) provide drug and alcohol counselling services locally in Witney and also in a mobile bus visiting the more rural areas of the district. In addition there has been an increased focus on preventing drug usage in licensed premises through drugs swabbing and a more coordinated approach by partners to hot spots through Operation Falcon. Oxfordshire has one of the most effective drug treatment services in the country.

Outcomes

The following outcomes have been achieved:

- In 2010/11 the service engaged with more than 1300 young people.



FOCUS ON THE PERPETRATOR - INITIATIVES THAT PREVENT OR ENFORCE AGAINST OFFENDERS OR THOSE AT RISK OF OFFENDING

- In 2010 there were 1835 people in effective treatment.
- 112 students attended the Young Peoples' Have Your Say Day.
- 37 young people at high risk of offending have received intervention



Focus on the Perpetrator Plan

In 2011-12 West Oxfordshire Community Safety Partnership will :

- Build on the Partnership's contribution to the Operation Falcon Project, developing a sophisticated framework to support communities following drugs warrants/arrests.
- Work more closely with the Probation Service and Youth Offending Service and look for opportunities support each other by working in partnership.
- To work with the DAAT to implement an up to date communication strategy to ensure that drug advice, information and education continues to be maintained and disseminated.
- To work with the DAAT to gain local drugs intelligence.
- Implement Operation Justice to target prolific offenders.
- Implement ANPR system to tackle travelling criminals.

We will monitor our success by:

- Maintaining the number of young people in YMAG and their outcomes against 2010/11 figures.
- Maintaining the number of people in effective treatment (DAAT).
- Maintaining the number of people prosecuted as a result of Operation Jackle.
- Implement a scheme to review domestic homicides.

PARTNERSHIP RESOURCES

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a duty on all responsible authorities to include the prevention of crime and disorder in all core functions.

In addition to this core premise under the 1998 Act, there is a co-located team of Thames Valley Police staff and District Council employees based at the district council offices.

This team works at both an operational and strategic level and includes anti-social behaviour, crime reduction, communications and neighbourhood watch and youth crime resources. This team also represents the partnership on local neighbourhood action groups and liaises with neighbourhood police teams.

Partnership working with responsible authorities and other agencies is an integral part of the team's daily work and they could not work effectively without it.

Performance

Performance of the Partnership will be monitored quarterly at the Community Safety Partnership Meeting. This Plan will be reviewed in a year's time and revised for 2012-13.

The District Council Economic and Social Scrutiny Committee has the responsibility of scrutinizing Community Safety Partnership activity and will receive an annual report.

The Partnership will review its structure, membership, and governance framework during the next year to ensure it is fit for purpose.

The following organisations are members of the Community Safety Partnership in West Oxfordshire:

- West Oxfordshire District Council
- Thames Valley Police
- Oxfordshire County Council
- Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Service
- NHS Oxfordshire
- Thames Valley Probation Service
- Thames Valley Police Authority
- Witney Town Council
- Carterton Town Council
- Chipping Norton Town Council



- All five Neighbourhood Action Groups
- Crimestoppers
- Cottsway Housing

West Oxfordshire Community Safety Partnership
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