

South and Vale Community Safety Partnership

Rolling annual plan 2013 -14



**Confident and
safer communities**

**SOUTH AND VALE COMMUNITY
SAFETY PARTNERSHIP**

INTRODUCTION

South and Vale Community Safety Partnership

Under the umbrella of the South and Vale Community Safety Partnership (CSP), a wide variety of local agencies are working to maintain low levels of crime and anti-social behaviour in South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse. From anti-social behaviour and enviro-crime action to crime prevention and police enforcement, drug treatment services and alcohol safety campaigns, we are focused on ensuring that residents feel and stay safe.

The South and Vale CSP was created in accordance with the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, which established the principles of partnership working. The partnership involves officers representing:

- South Oxfordshire District Council
- Vale of White Horse District Council
- NHS Oxfordshire
- Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)
- Thames Valley Police (TVP)
- Thames Valley Probation Service
- Sovereign Vale Housing Association
- Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Service
- Soha Housing Limited
- Oxfordshire Drug & Alcohol Action Team (DAAT), Public Health

From 15 November 2012, Thames Valley Police Authority was replaced by the Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner who will work closely with CSPs to reduce crime, disorder and re-offending.

The CSP has two 'operational', multi-agency sub groups which help to deliver its objectives across both districts: South and Vale Nightsafe and South and Vale Joint Agency Tasking and Co-ordination.

The partnership's annual rolling plan

Following the successful delivery of its 2012/13 plan, the CSP has refreshed its objectives for 2013/14 to ensure they continue to reflect the national and local community safety priorities. The Partnership's activities remain focused around three key areas:

- projects that tackle concerns affecting the whole **community**
- projects that support **victims** or prevent people from becoming a victim of crime or anti-social behaviour
- projects that tackle **offenders** or those who are at risk of committing, crime and anti-social behaviour

Once a year, the CSP is required to conduct a Strategic Intelligence Assessment (SIA) to identify the priorities for the forthcoming year. In 2012/13, we worked with Oxfordshire Safer Communities Partnership to develop an Oxfordshire SIA and contributed to the Thames Valley Police SIA. We have used this information along with the Police Crime Commissioners (PCC) plan to inform this year's annual rolling community safety plan.

The Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC) plan (2013-2017) strategic objectives are set out below:

1. to cut crimes that are of most concern to the public and to protect the most vulnerable members of our communities
2. to protect the visible presence of the police and partners to cut crime and the fear of crime and to reassure communities
3. to protect the public from harm arising from serious organised crime and terrorism
4. to communicate and engage with the public in order to cut crime and the fear and the fear of crime and build trust and confidence with our communities
5. work with criminal justice partners to reduce crime and support victims and witnesses
6. to ensure policing, community safety and criminal justice services are delivered efficiently and effectively

In addition, we have updated our plan by:

- finding out what current issues our partner agencies are dealing with in terms of crime and community safety
- monitoring the community safety related feedback from the district councils' resident survey' panels
- taking into account the priorities identified by Neighbourhood Action Groups and other community groups

This document gives a brief overview of the CSP achievements in the South and Vale from 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013 and sets out the plan for 2013/14. We will be expecting to see a positive direction of travel in terms of the delivery of all our objectives/projects. Where this is not occurring, the partnership will agree necessary remedial actions.

SOUTH AND VALE CSP ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2012/13

Between 1 April 2012 and 31 March 2013, there was an overall reduction in all crime in the South and Vale:

- in **South** there was a 6 per cent reduction from 5727 crimes during 2011/12 to 5378 crimes during 2012/13.
- in **Vale** there was a 15 per cent reduction from 4468 crimes during 2011/12 to 3801 crimes during 2012/13.

2012/13 has been another busy year for the South and Vale CSP, which has been successfully operating as a single Partnership since April 2011. By joining together two district CSPs into one, we have been able to pool resources and expertise and reduce the number of meetings that officers have to co-ordinate and attend.

Here are some examples of the activities that the CSP supported in the last financial year:

- we funded the South and Vale dedicated outreach service for victims of domestic abuse which supported over 50 residents in 2012/13.
- we co-ordinated a local, multi-agency response to reports of anti social behaviour received by the police, district councils and housing associations. This helped to ensure that victims received the right level of support from the right agencies at the right time.
- Didcot TRAIN received funding from the CSP to provide outreach support and activities for vulnerable young people in the town – approximately 300 young people benefited from their work in 2012/13.
- we funded a small repairs scheme for elderly and vulnerable residents to prevent repeat incidents of domestic burglary or domestic abuse. Over 100 repairs were carried out between April 2012 and March 2013, ranging from door chains to safe rooms for victims of domestic abuse.
- we created a web page for victims of anti-social behaviour as a resource to guide them on how to deal with neighbour nuisance. The campaign was named Friends across the Fence by a Neighbourhood Watch member and accessed by over 200 people.
- the South and Vale CSP launched Nightsafe in Didcot to help pubs promote responsible drinking and behaviour, generating lots of positive press coverage.



Nightsafe is a multi-agency programme of communication, education and partnership working to reduce incidents of alcohol related crime. The Nightsafe scheme is already in existence in Wantage, Abingdon and Henley and 46 premises have signed up to the scheme in South and Vale.

- in partnership with Crimestoppers, we ran a burglary prevention campaign. We produced a postcard to encourage people to secure their properties and publicised a competition that over 130 households in South Oxfordshire entered to win one of 20 smartwater kits. Smartwater is a colourless forensic liquid that is applied to valuable items. In the event of a burglary the items can be traced back to their original owner.



Some of the winners presented with smartwater kits
By Insp Mark Harling



- for the 2012 Henley Regatta we ran a 'take it slow have an H2O' Nightsafe alcohol awareness campaign with Henley licensees to encourage people to drink responsibly during Regatta, worked with Henley Town Council and other agencies to fund extra bus services to help people get home safely and speedily and recommended outreach provision from Young Addaction who provided advice to 200 young people, to prevent alcohol and drug misuse during the event. There were 25 crimes reported or discovered by the police (on the Oxfordshire side of the river). This was a reduction on 2011 by four crimes. The Designated Public Place Order (DPPO) introduced by the CSP in 2011 gave police the powers to deal with alcohol related anti social behaviour in public areas. This continues to be used to good effect especially during Regatta. There are also DPPO's in Thame and Abingdon.

- a diversionary project in Abingdon gave young people from the local youth club an opportunity to work with an artist to express themselves by creating designs for the kickabout play area. We worked with the Youth Offending Service to remove graffiti from the play area in South Abingdon before the project commenced. The project funding was matched by the Vale Arts Team and has remained graffiti free.



- the South and Vale CSP introduced an alternative reporting service for victims of hate crime who are reluctant to go the police. Stop Hate UK is a new 24-hour freephone helpline for anyone who has been on the receiving end of, or is witness to, hate crime. Stop Hate UK service is being supported and funded by county and district councils and CSP's across the Thames Valley Police Area, including South and Vale CSP. South and Vale CSP recognises that no one should suffer abuse because of who they are and that help should be available for both victims and witnesses.

What is Hate Crime?

Hate Crime can be verbal, physical or emotional abuse, bullying, harassment, violence, name calling, attacks on property or exploitation triggered because of who or what you are. It doesn't have to be to your face – it could be written in a letter, email, graffiti or on Facebook. The important thing is how it makes you feel.



- the Community Safety Project Officer worked in partnership with Faringdon Academy of Schools on the final phase of the community mural. Our aim is to help reduce anti-social behaviour by improving the appearance of the area for residents. The inside of the subway was a collective design produced by students from Faringdon Community College. The students previously designed and painted the murals for the walls of the underpass in 2010 and 2011. Oxfordshire County Highways prepared the walls for painting and sealed the design with an anti-graffiti coating. Officers from the district council received a positive response to the new design when they asked walkers passing through the underpass for their comments: "The paintings have made a huge difference to the area, the kids love it and their work has not been destroyed". "Fantastic! I mean it; I am not just saying it to please you" 92 per cent believe the artwork has improved the appearance of the area and over half people questioned feel safer using the underpass as a result of the improvements. Natalie Thomas, Head of Art and Design at Faringdon Community College, said: "Students have brightened up the walkway with an underground theme, with pictures of fossils, animals and their lairs. The project has given them an opportunity to express themselves and improve the local area." The underpass has remained graffiti free.



Our plans for 2013/14

PROJECTS THAT TACKLE CONCERNS AFFECTING THE WHOLE COMMUNITY

In 2013/14 we will:

Priority	Measure	PCC Plan: strategic objectives
1. continue to support a partnership approach to reducing antisocial behaviour, particularly where it is criminal or targeted at vulnerable victims	levels of reported anti-social behaviour to the police and district councils, including the number of repeat victims and District customer feedback	strategic objective 1: anti-social behaviour strategic objective 2: anti-social behaviour teams
	levels of enforcement/intervention taken to tackle anti social behaviour	
2. take robust and co-ordinated action to reduce the number of enviro-crimes in South and Vale	levels of fly tipping, graffiti, litter and fly posting	strategic objective 1: anti-social behaviour and local priority crime
3. address short term, tactical community safety problems through our Joint Agency Tasking and Co-ordinating (JATAC) group	actions and outcomes from issues reported to JATAC	strategic objective 1: local priority crime and troubled families
4. further reduce alcohol related crime and disorder by increasing the number of towns and premises that are signed up to Nightsafe. Ensure that we are using legislation effectively to tackle premises that contribute to alcohol related crime and disorder. Deliver a minimum of two alcohol awareness campaigns per year.	level of criminal damage reported to the police	strategic objective 1: violent crime and anti-social behaviour strategic objective 4: 2-way communication with communities
	level of violent assault reported to the police	
	outcomes from the two alcohol awareness campaigns	
5. strengthen community cohesion and reduce tensions by supporting projects that break down intergenerational barriers and improve understanding of cultural diversity	public perception of the fear of crime (measured by residents survey)	strategic objective 4: obtain the views of communities and 'seldom heard' groups on policing and crime issues
	public perception of how well people from different backgrounds get on together	

PROJECTS THAT SUPPORT VICTIMS OR PREVENT PEOPLE FROM BECOMING A VICTIM OF CRIME OR ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

In 2013/14 we will:

Priority	Measure	PCC Plan: strategic objectives
<p>6. work with the county domestic abuse steering group to promote initiatives that raise awareness, by providing additional support for victims and children affected by domestic abuse by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • funding a dedicated outreach service • funding sanctuary scheme small works • promoting the domestic abuse champions network within our organisations and communities 	number of cases referred to and closed by South and Vale domestic abuse outreach service, the average waiting time for victims and customer feedback data.	<p>Strategic objective 1: domestic and other inter-personal abuse including child sexual exploitation and safe guarding vulnerable adults, children and young people</p>
	reporting of domestic abuse, aiming to reduce the number of high risk cases that result in repeat victimisation	
	levels of domestic abuse reported to the police	
	number of domestic abuse champions in South and Vale	
<p>7. continue to pilot a third party reporting and referral systems for hate crime in South and Vale to ensure they are effective in offering victims an alternative to reporting to the police</p>	levels of hate crime reported to the police and to Stop Hate UK and outcome of customer feedback for Stop Hate UK.	<p>Strategic objective 5: support for victims and witnesses</p>
<p>8. provide practical support to victims of distraction burglary and rogue traders by continuing to fund a small repairs scheme for elderly and vulnerable residents</p>	number of properties secured by the small repairs scheme and outcomes of the support provided	<p>strategic objective 1: acquisitive crime (with a focus on dwelling burglaries, and 'cyber' crime)</p>
<p>9. run targeted crime reduction campaigns to raise awareness and provide information to those affected by crime</p>	levels of domestic burglary, car crime and robbery reported to the police	<p>strategic objective 1: acquisitive crime (with a focus on dwelling burglaries, and 'cyber' crime)</p>
	levels of burglary non dwelling reported to the police	<p>strategic objective 4: promote crime reduction and prevention activities</p>

10. work with land owners and the rural community to deliver initiatives that tackle rural crime	outcomes of the specific projects funded by the partnership that tackle rural crime	<p>strategic objective 1: rural crime</p> <p>strategic objective 4: promote crime reduction and prevention activities</p> <p>strategic objective 4: publish information about accessing, delivery and outcomes of policing and crime services</p>
11. support and protect children and young people	awaiting police prevalence report (child sexual exploitation) actions to be confirmed	Strategic objective 1: safeguarding vulnerable adults, children and young people

PROJECTS THAT TACKLE OFFENDERS OR THOSE WHO ARE AT RISK OF COMMITTING CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

In 2013/14 we will:

Priority	Measure	PCC Plan: strategic objectives
12. work in partnership with community groups to support local diversionary activities for young people to help prevent them from committing or becoming involved in crime and anti-social behaviour	outcomes of the specific projects funded by the partnership (e.g. including Didcot TRAIN)	<p>strategic objective 1: anti-social behaviour and safeguarding vulnerable adults, children and young people</p> <p>strategic objective 5: tackling drugs and alcohol</p>
13. continue to conduct intelligence led test purchasing operations to reduce underage sales of alcohol and underage drinking	number of test purchase operations conducted to prevent the sale of restricted goods to underage people ,the number of fixed penalty notices issued and the percentage pass rate	strategic objective 5: tackling drugs and alcohol
14. reduce illegal drug use in licensed premises by supporting passive drugs dog operations	number of passive drugs dog operations run in licensed premises and outcomes	strategic objective 5: tackling drugs and alcohol

15. help the Integrated Offender Management team to share information with relevant agencies about Priority and Prolific Offenders (PPOs) in South and Vale to help reduce levels of re-offending	number of PPOs in South and Vale	strategic objective 5: Integrated Offender Management
	number of PPOs who did not offend and spent no time in custody	
16. support the Oxfordshire Drug and Alcohol Action Team to ensure that drug and alcohol treatment services are accessible to people who live and work in South and Vale	number of drug and alcohol users starting/leaving structured treatment in South and Vale, with the number and percentage who have successfully completed the treatment	strategic objective 5: tackling drugs and alcohol
	number of drug users accessing needle exchange services in pharmacies in South and Vale	
17. support and develop projects that utilise the services of the Thames Valley Probation Community Payback Scheme in South and Vale	number of Community Payback projects and outcomes	strategic objective 4: promote crime reduction and prevention activities

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