

Safer Wolverhampton Partnership Annual Report 2018-2019



Operating as Wolverhampton's Local Police & Crime Board



Contents

Introduction – Chair of the Safer Wolverhampton Partnership	4
Safer Wolverhampton Partnership	5
How we commission	5
Community Safety and Harm Reduction Strategy 2017-2020	6
Strategic Priority: Reducing Reoffending	7
Strategic Priority: Reducing Victimisation	8
Strategic Priority: Violence Prevention	10
Statutory Functions	13
Moving Forward	15
Year 3 Delivery	16
Appendix A – Breakdown of Expenditure	17
Appendix B – Safer Wolverhampton Partnership Board Membership	18

Glossary of Terms

CPN	Community Protection Notice	PACT	Partners and Communities Together
CPO	Community Protection Order	PCC	Police and Crime Commissioner
CPW	Community Protection Warning	PCSO	Police Community Support Officer
CRC	Community Rehabilitation Company	PRU	Pupil Referral Unit
CRG	Community Reference Group	SWP	Safer Wolverhampton Partnership
CSP	Community Safety Partnership	TRC	Total Recorded Crime
DA	Domestic Abuse	USG	Urban Street Gang
DHR	Domestic Homicide Review	VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls
IDVA	Independent Domestic Violence Advisor	VOO	Violent Offender Order
MARAC	Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference	WDVF	Wolverhampton Domestic Violence Forum
MASH	Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub	WMFS	West Midlands Fire Service
MS	Modern Slavery	WMP	West Midlands Police
NPS	New Psychoactive Substances	WRAP	Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent
NPU	Neighbourhood Policing Unit	WVBCRG	Wolverhampton Business Crime Reduction Group
OPCC	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner	YOT	Youth Offending Team

Key

Throughout the strategy progress against delivery is rated as below:

	Complete		On target for delivery		More work needed to meet objectives		Not on track for delivery
---	----------	---	------------------------	---	-------------------------------------	---	---------------------------

Introduction by Chair of the Safer Wolverhampton Partnership

The Safer Wolverhampton Partnership (SWP) is pleased to present the 2018-2019 annual report, which outlines delivery against the Board's crime reduction and community safety priorities.

Performance this year highlights significant steps forward across our priority areas; a strengthened partnership approach and increase in practitioner training has contributed towards the increase in the reporting of traditionally hidden crimes such as domestic abuse, modern slavery and hate crime. Also highlighted is the Public Health approach being taken to both address and tackle violence and weapon-related offending across the city. SWP have applied learning from successes evidenced elsewhere in the country and continue to build on local partnerships and work with third sector providers to deliver interventions and robust preventative activities.

Strong partnership arrangements are key to the successful delivery against SWPs strategic priorities; the board works closely alongside statutory, non-statutory and third sector partners to ensure a robust and inclusive approach when tackling community safety related work across Wolverhampton.

Moving into 2019-2020, a key focus will be the implementation of the newly developed Tackling Violence and Exploitation Strategy which takes the bold step of committing to a fresh approach to address issues of violence and exploitation across the city, recognising that the ever-evolving landscape of exploitation requires a more flexible and agile approach across partners and a commitment to tackle violence and exploitation in its entirety. Addressing domestic abuse and other interpersonal violence will continue to be the focus as the interpersonal violence strategy is delivered.



Mark Taylor

Chair

City of Wolverhampton
Council



**Chief
Superintendent
Andy Beard**

Safer Wolverhampton
Partnership



**Councillor
Hazel Malcolm**

City of Wolverhampton
Council



**Councillor
Jasbir Jaspal**

City of Wolverhampton
Council

The Safer Wolverhampton Partnership

SWP is a statutory body formed under the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act, which also operates as the city's Local Police and Crime Board. Membership consists of a range of statutory and non-statutory partners who provide cross sector representation. The Board come together to tackle crime and community safety issues across the city. It does not replace the work of the Police or the day-to-day business of the other participating agencies but is widely considered as the most effective approach to finding joint solutions to local

issues in partnership (Appendix B shows a breakdown of Board membership). SWP receives an annual funding stream from the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (OPCC) to commission projects, interventions and posts to deliver strategic crime and community safety priorities across Wolverhampton. The main focus remains on collaborative working and influencing mainstream services. Membership is made up of a range of statutory, third sector, business sector and resident representatives.

How we commission

SWP continues to receive a grant from the Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC). The grant is used to commission specific services to aid delivery against strategic priorities. SWP commissions with both statutory and third sector organisations which are able to provide the specialist services required. Budget allocation from the PCC is granted on an annual basis, this restricts commissioning to annual contracts and provides challenges for longer term

contracting and planning. 2018- 2019 saw the PCC begin to commission regional services to ensure consistent delivery across the region and value for money. Wolverhampton benefits from many of the regionally commissioned activities. Appendix (A) shows a breakdown of expenditure and allocation for the financial year including direct commissioning for the financial year

Community Safety and Harm Reduction Strategy 2017-2020

Reducing Reoffending

- Implement a Black Country wide Reducing Reoffending Strategy in partnership with key stakeholders
- Improve city image and business confidence by tackling aggressive begging and rough sleeping
- Improve recovery rates for offenders and those at risk of offending who have substance misuse problems
- Address drug dealing amongst individuals with a particular focus on New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) in order to reduce substance related offending
- Identify young people at risk of offending to support them at an early stage, and provide interventions to address their attitudes and behaviours
- Reduce volume crime with particular focus on vehicle crime, burglary, shoplifting and domestic abuse (DA)

Reducing Victimisation

- Engage with identified communities to break the cycle of cultural acceptance of domestic related abuse and vulnerability
- Enable communities to deliver solutions to local concerns
- Increase understanding of modern slavery (MS) and build confidence of victims to report issues and access support
- Working with partners, strengthen and integrate the collective response to DA
- Targeted engagement with businesses to reduce the risk of business victimisation
- Build confidence within communities subjected to hate crime to increase reporting and strengthen cohesion

Violence Prevention

- Deliver a risk-based model of DA perpetrator programmes inside and outside of the criminal justice system
- Provide mediation services to reduce tensions and escalations of violence
- Provide early interventions to deter young people from joining gangs and carrying bladed weapons
- Apply available legislative tools and powers to increase the effective management of offenders
- Develop interventions to deter young people from committing violent acts

Statutory Functions

- Improve engagement and provide a platform for residents to raise concerns
- Complete Domestic Homicide Reviews in order to identify learning for agencies to improve practice and prevent further deaths
- Deliver Wolverhampton's response to the Prevent duty
- Deliver initiatives to strengthen community cohesion across the city

Strategic Priority:

Reducing Reoffending

SWP committed to:

Implementing a Black Country wide Reducing Reoffending Strategy

Wolverhampton's Community Safety Partnership (CSP) led on the delivery of the Black Country Reducing Reoffending Strategy¹ in collaboration with Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) from Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall. This innovative sub-regional approach assists the Black Country to attract additional resources, avoid displacement issues and strengthens the areas collective capacity to share best practice and make efficiencies. Work will continue at a local level to produce actions plans which will aligned to the strategy and ensure that partners are committed to ongoing delivery against the reducing reoffending agenda.

Addressing drug dealing amongst individuals, with a particular focus on New Psychoactive Substances and improving recovery rates for offenders & those at risk of substance misuse problems

Of 978 drug tests carried out on Wolverhampton residents on arrival at a custody suite, 74.3% proved positive for drugs.

65% of referred prison leavers receiving intervention within 21 days of exit.

Improving city image and business confidence by tackling aggressive begging and rough sleeping

Active involvement in the Alternative Giving Campaign has helped to support rough sleepers to access support services and raise understanding with the public. Since April 2018, a team of professionals have supported **16 long-term rough sleepers** into accommodation, while more than **20 other individuals** who were at risk of rough sleeping have accessed support, been given a temporary housing, and will go on to secure long-term accommodation².

Reducing volume crime with focus on vehicle crime, burglary, shoplifting and DA

In 2016-2017 (the most up-to-date ratified figures) the reoffending rate was 30.8%, this is below the national baseline of 40%.

Theft from a motor vehicle contributed 8% of total recorded crime (TRC) in Wolverhampton – the 5th highest contributor to TRC. Wolverhampton are currently the 2nd best performing area in the West midlands area for reducing burglary.

¹ www.saferwolverhampton.org.uk/documents.html

² www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/news/city-group-making-difference-rough-sleepers

Strategic Priority:

Reducing Victimisation

SWP committed to:

Engage with identified communities to break the cycle of cultural acceptance of domestic related abuse and vulnerability

- **9 Community Champions** identified to raise awareness and break down barriers which may prevent individuals from reporting domestic abuse
- Reports of domestic abuse saw a **4.7% increase** from the previous year³ - increased confidence in residents to report incidents and continued training for staff has helped to increase reporting (where typically DA is under reported) and support for victims
- Awareness raising sessions held at Wolverhampton Refugee and Migrant Centre to educate and empower the ethnically diverse communities across the city

Working with partners, strengthen and integrate the collective response to DA

- Ongoing training delivered by Wolverhampton Domestic Violence Forum (WDVF)
- Training delivered to nearly **300 General Practice** staff, resulting in an increase in MARAC referrals from General Practitioners
- **Vulnerability assessments** completed as part of the Safer Homes Scheme, supporting victims of abuse and vulnerable people to remain safely in their homes
- **18% increase** from the previous year of cases discussed at Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)⁴

³ 6858 reports were received during 2018-2019 compared to 6361 during 2017-2018

⁴ 543 cases discussed during 2018-2019 compared with 460 during 2017-2018

Increase understanding of modern slavery and build confidence of victims to report issues/access support

- **27 staff** from a range of agencies trained to deliver Modern Slavery training
- Training roll out city-wide available to all agencies across Wolverhampton – over **100 people trained**
- Council commitment to ensure supply chains are free from slavery and human trafficking
- Strengthening of Wolverhampton strategic group tackling Modern Slavery; extended to include Walsall

Building confidence within communities subjected to hate crime to increase reporting and strengthen cohesion throughout our diverse city

- Developed a multi-agency microsite⁵
- **17 third party** reporting centres
- Widespread training across various sectors in the city
- **31.2% increase in hate crimes recorded**
= increased confidence in residents⁶
- Hate Crime of any type has no place in Wolverhampton. An increase in reports of this typically hidden crime is welcomed. This demonstrates an increase in confidence and trust that hate related issues will be addressed and victims supported

⁵ www.stophatewv.net

⁶ 120 recorded during 2017-2018 compared to 385 during 2018-2019

Strategic Priority:

Violence Prevention

SWP committed to:

Identify young people at risk of offending at an early stage and provide early interventions to deter young people from carrying bladed weapons and committing violent acts

Peer mentoring: Trains young people to become mentors, active in 21 primary schools.

School holiday provision: over 250 young people engaged in diversionary activities in targeted areas during February half term

Pupil Referral Unit mentoring: Mentoring of young people attending pupil referral units (PRUs), known to be at a higher risk of violence and exploitation

Violence Specialist Commissioning: Youth outreach is being provided in targeted areas in the city, so far engaged over 100 young people

Focus on: Beats a bar

The Youth Offending Team (YOT) Music Project has been hugely successful thus far. There have been 98 studio sessions, offering 196 hours of structured intervention. 16 young people have engaged within the project, with one achieving a bronze art award. It has engaged many young people from different ethnic backgrounds, ages and life experiences. The project has focused on young people who have committed offences of violence or possession of knives (83% of the young people on the project) who have been on a variety of court orders and custody licences. Professionals and young people alike, have spoken about how the YOT Music Project has helped young people to express themselves in a controlled and meaningful manner; built a renewed energy to engage in education and used the rhythmic music sessions to relax and regulate themselves. This project has been one of the many vital projects being currently developed and delivered to support our trauma informed approach to engage young people to build safe attachments with a trusted adult, to help a young person to learn how to co and then self-regulate and develop their own social competency and self-esteem.

Apply available legislative tools and powers to increase the effective management of offenders

The use of Community Protection Notices (CPN) has proven successful with dealing with identified Urban Street Gang (USG) members. The notices can prevent specific individuals from entering specified locations and prevent association with other identified individuals. Other more creative prohibitions can be included if deemed appropriate; such as not uploading videos onto Social Media platforms.

Wolverhampton Police proactively take action against members of USGs if their CPN has been breached. This can lead to tighter management of the offenders.

Wolverhampton Neighbourhood Policing Unit (NPU) have also successfully made use of Community Protection Orders (CPO) for a wide range of circumstances, which include; persistent begging, anti-social behaviour and against USGs.

Section 35 dispersal orders have also been successful over the past 12 months. The power allows for preventative policing, allowing Police Officers and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) to disperse persons who are likely to cause a crime or disorder in a location.

The NPU has also make use of Gang Injunctions; obtaining such injunctions against individuals to prevent them from causing gang related violence. In addition, during this financial year two Violent Offender orders were also granted against individuals who posed a high risk of serious physical and psychological harm.

Provide specialist mediation services to reduce tensions and escalations of violence

The Community Reference Group (CRG) was re-commissioned to provide the specialist mediation service in 2018-2019. The service is deployed in response to escalating gang and youth violence tensions. This service has proved to be invaluable in providing community reassurance and reducing the risk of further incidents. The local knowledge the group has along with the trust of the community means that they are best placed to deliver the service effectively.



Deliver a risk-based model of DA perpetrator programmes inside and outside of the criminal justice system

A West Midlands Perpetrator programme catering for high-risk perpetrators runs alongside a Wolverhampton programme catering for all levels of risks and accepting self, early-help and third-party referrals. The Wolverhampton Programme is funded by the Home Office Violence against Women and Girls Service Transformation Fund.

Explanation of red rating: Despite both programmes being operational, the number of referrals being generated is disappointing. The service began in March 2018 and there is a need to develop the culture shift necessary in our frontline services, who are actively engaged with victims, but who are having to develop a new skill set to engage with perpetrators. This culture change that we're currently navigating is in line with the experiences of others introducing this programme elsewhere.

Actions: Advertising with Wolverhampton Wanderers; training social workers particularly about how to refer into the programme; proactively engaging with frontline staff across sectors so that they are knowledgeable and confident to initiate conversations about the programme.

Generating more referrals to the programme continues to be a focus in year three of the Community Safety and Harm Reduction Strategy.

Statutory Functions

SWP committed to:

Improving engagement and providing a platform for residents to raise concerns

- **112 Partners and Communities Together (PACT) meetings** held across the city
- Safer Wolverhampton Partnership Facebook page had a reach of **69,869** during 2018-2019
- Twitter page has **382 followers** and has published **790 tweets**
- Regularly updated Safer Wolverhampton Partnership website⁷
- Resident representatives on the SWP Board

Completing Domestic Homicide Reviews in order to identify learning for agencies to improve practice and prevent further deaths

Undertaking Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) continues to be a statutory obligation delivered by SWP. A DHR is completed when a death meets specified criteria set by the Home Office; the aim of the review is to identify learning for agencies improve practice and prevent future deaths. Any DHR completed by Wolverhampton is done so in a timely manner in line with Home Office guidelines.

In 2018-2019 one DHR was completed and submitted to the Home Office.

Focus on: PACT

At a Wednesfield PACT meeting in September 2018 residents raised concerns about a perceived lack of police presence and council action in response to aggressive beggars in the area. Residents reported that they were causing a nuisance, taking drugs and thought to be linked to an increase in theft in the area.

The Neighbourhood Safety Coordinator for the area arranged an additional PACT meeting on the High Street for partners, local businesses and residents to discuss this issue exclusively. During the meeting all partners agreed to make a concerted effort to tackle the issue, offer support for those involved and take enforcement action where necessary.

Following the meeting there were 4 'Days of Action' in the community which involved numerous agencies offering support with homelessness and substance misuse issues. There were also agencies present to address the offending behaviour as well as additional police patrols.

Follow this intensive period of multi-agency support the number of aggressive beggars and rough sleepers in the area has reduced from 15 to 2; the remaining 2 have been served community protection notices.

The residents and businesses who initially raised the concerns have provided positive feedback for the quick response of the neighbourhood safety coordinator and partner agencies and consider the outcome a success.

⁷ www.saferwolverhampton.org.uk

Deliver Wolverhampton's response to the Prevent Duty

Wolverhampton continues to robustly respond to the Prevent Duty. This area of business is both a statutory and priority area of business for the partnership. The city is considered a low risk area by the Home Office and as such does not receive funding. The Partnership nevertheless delivers robust response to the duty, including;

- Providing training for partners across the city raising awareness of prevent (WRAP)
- Building community cohesion and empowerment by sustained community engagement
- Providing Hate Crime awareness training
- Providing training for third party reporting centres
- Developing a Microsite for the city to provide resources, information and where to access support

Deliver initiatives to strengthen community cohesion across the city

- Regular contact with faith groups through various forums and visits to places of worship
- Community Tensions are monitored monthly with any reported issues acted upon in partnership
- Dedicated Community Cohesion Forum, formed of statutory agencies, community groups, councillors and the faith sector
- Work in ward areas to improve and enhance community cohesion and perception
- Assisting communities to apply for grants and funding to use in their community
- Community Cohesion Forum

Moving Forward: 2019-2020

Moving forward into 2019-2020 SWP will continue to tackle some of the most challenging community safety issues in Wolverhampton. Interventions with people who may be vulnerable to violence and exploitation continue to be a high priority and will be guided by the implementation of the SWP Tackling Violence and Exploitation Strategy which will take a public health approach to violence and combat the issues of violence and exploitation holistically. The wide scope of this strategy means that it will have joint governance arrangements with Wolverhampton Safeguarding Boards, strengthening the partnership approach across the city in responding to these issues.

This will be aided by the £110,000 allocated from the Early Intervention Youth Fund by the Police and Crime Commissioner to Wolverhampton. SWP will need to utilise this additional resource by commissioning diversionary activity for young people in targeted areas in the city which are vulnerable to gang and youth violence. This action will run alongside a programme which is currently being developed with partners from education and children's services to reduce exclusions in our schools. There is also a West Midlands wide commitment to the development of a regional violence prevention unit, based on best-practice violence reduction units in Scotland.



2018-2019 will see the implementation of the Tackling Interpersonal Violence Strategy (2019-2022) which includes provision for violence against women and girls in Wolverhampton. Action plans and performance frameworks will be updated to ensure that they align with the new strategy outcomes. Particular early areas of focus for 2018-2019 will be community engagement, generating referrals for the Domestic Violence Perpetrator Programme and embedding the new area of stalking and harassment.

The following page outlines all of our year three priorities which have been informed by local knowledge and a strategic assessment of emerging and current trends within Wolverhampton and agreed by the Safer Wolverhampton Partnership Board.

Year 3 delivery

Reducing Reoffending

- Establish a Reducing Reoffending action plan for Wolverhampton to ensure delivery against the Black Country Reducing Reoffending Strategy
- Improve pathways for offenders to access employment and housing in Wolverhampton
- Identify young people who are vulnerable to support them at the earliest possible stage; providing interventions to address their attitudes and behaviours whilst considering a 'Contextual Safeguarding' approach
- Reduce serious acquisitive crime and all forms of violence, including domestic abuse
- Improve city image and business confidence by continuing to work in partnership to tackle and reduce aggressive begging and rough sleeping across all areas of Wolverhampton
- Improve recovery rates for offenders and those at risk of offending who have substance misuse problems including New Psychoactive Substances (NPS)

Reducing Victimization

- Develop interventions to deter young people from committing violent acts and reduce the number of young people committing knife related crime or being exploited (including; county lines, child sexual exploitation, child criminal exploitation and modern slavery)
- Provide mediation services for the community by the community, to reduce tensions and escalation of violence
- Apply available legislative tools and powers to increase the effective management of offenders
- Continue to promote and deliver a behaviour change programme to reduce the harm from domestic abuse perpetrators
- Increase the use of out of court disposals, specifically restorative justice

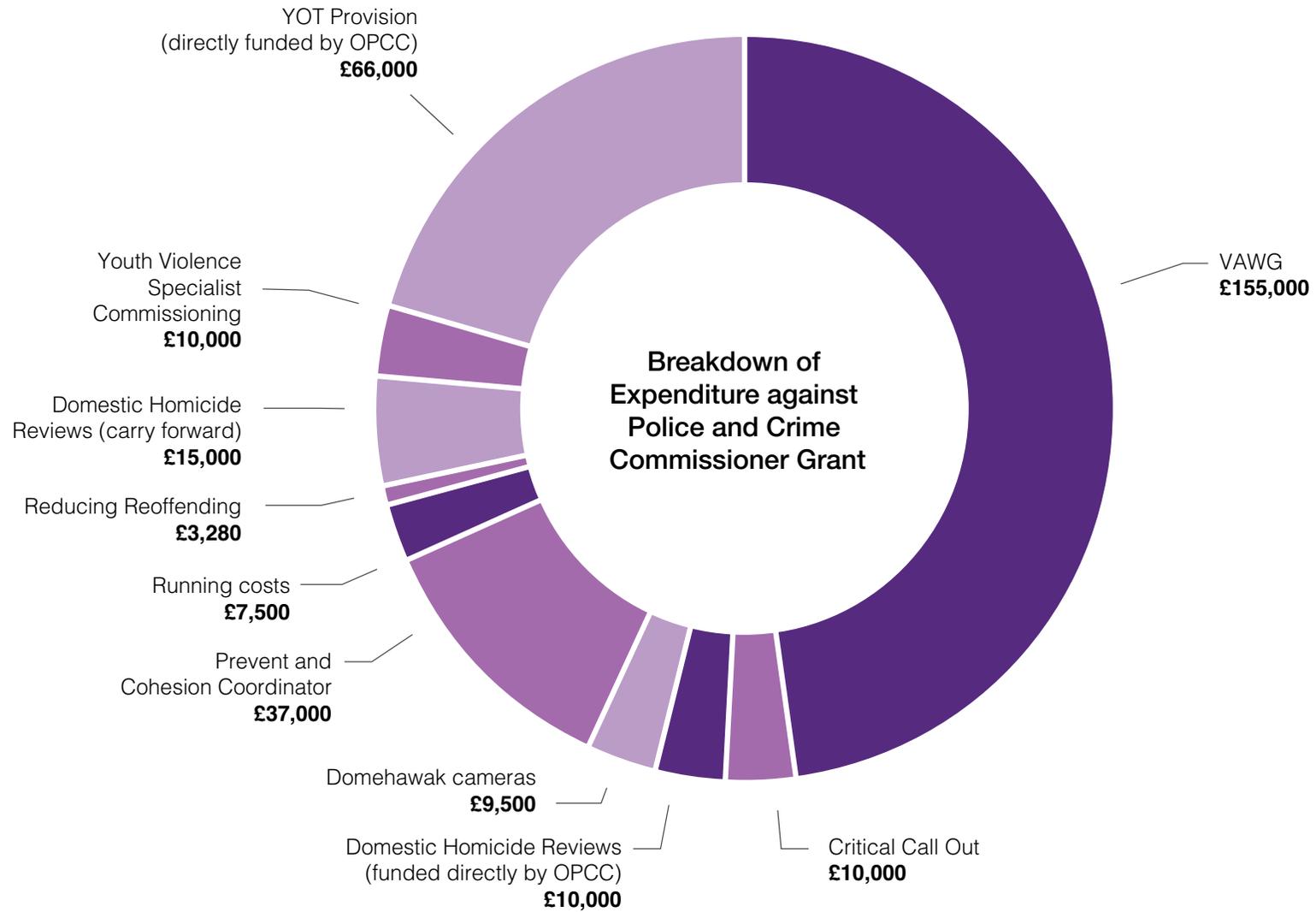
Violence Prevention

- Implement a violence and exploitation strategy for Wolverhampton and review governance arrangements in collaboration with key stakeholders and partners
- Maintain engagement with communities to break the cycle of cultural acceptance of domestic related abuse and vulnerability
- Continue to work in partnership to reduce violence and exploitation
- Continue to work with communities to increase reporting and recognising hate crime and to strengthen cohesion
- Continue to work with partners to strengthen and integrate the collective response to domestic abuse
- Work with Education partners to identify the earliest opportunity to intervene to prevent the exploitation of young people, including Delivery of Domestic Abuse programmes in school settings
- Increase understanding of modern slavery and build confidence of victims to report issues and access support

Statutory Functions

- Provide engagement and a platform for residents to raise concerns
- Complete Domestic Homicide Reviews in order to identify learning for agencies to improve practice and prevent further deaths
- Deliver Wolverhampton's response to the Prevent duty
- Deliver initiatives to strengthen community cohesion across the city

Appendix A: Breakdown of Expenditure



Appendix B: SWP Board Membership

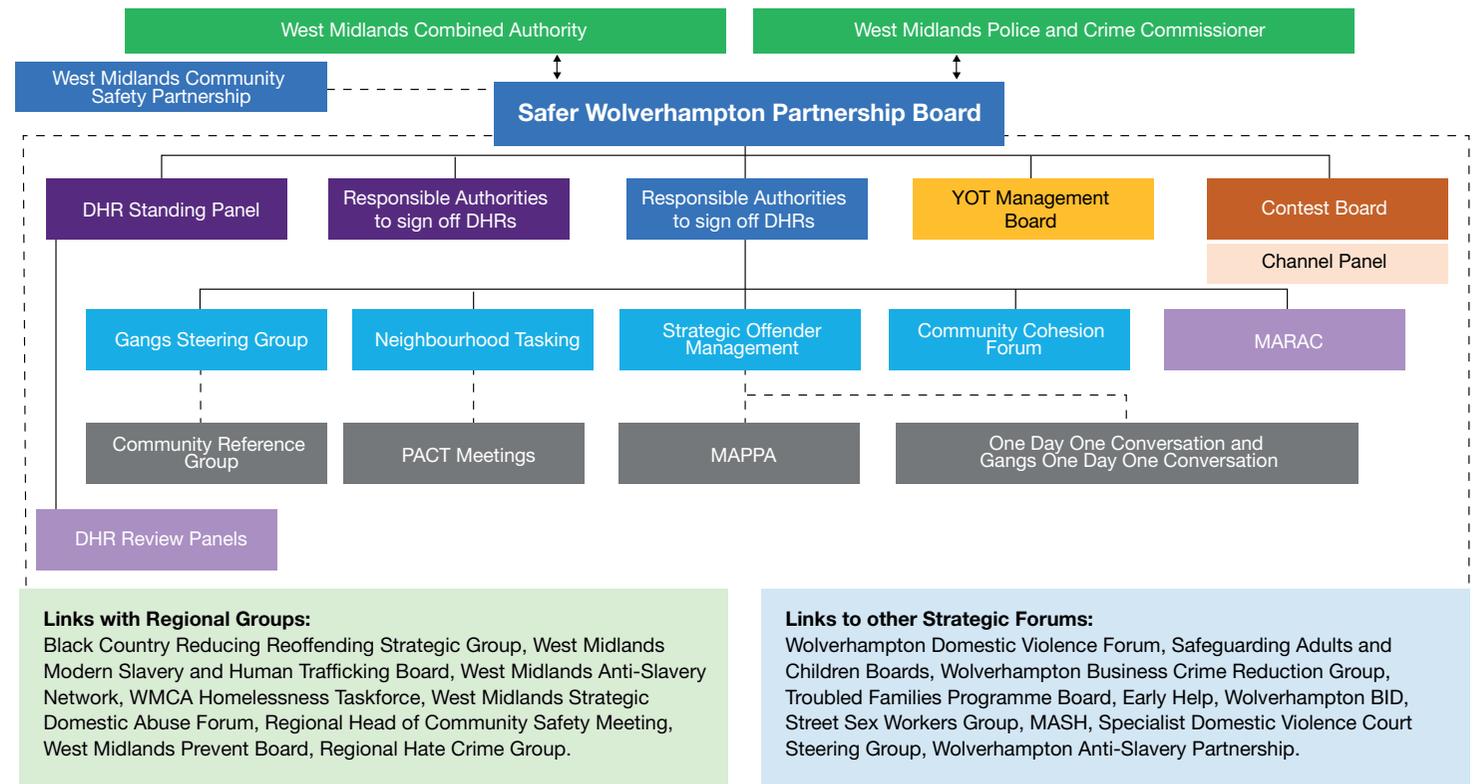
SWP Board membership:

- Business sector
- City of Wolverhampton Council
- Clinical Commissioning Group
- Community Rehabilitation Company
- Constituency based resident representatives
- Her Majesty’s Prison Service
- National Probation Service
- Resident representatives (x3)
- West Midlands Fire Service
- West Midlands Police
- Youth Offending Team
- Youth Police & Crime Commissioners

Third Sector-including resident representatives/special interest representatives:

(Rakegate Tenants and Resident’s Association; Wolverhampton Domestic Violence Forum, P3, Victim Support and St George’s Hub)

Delivery Structure Chart



The Safer Wolverhampton Partnership works in partnership at a local, Black Country and regional level. This allows sharing of resources, identification of efficiencies, the avoidance of displacement (recognising that offenders and those who are vulnerable move across geographical boundaries) and strengthens collective capability at a strategic level.





Operating as Wolverhampton's Local Police & Crime Board