

Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee

Thursday 1 April 2021 at 5.00 pm

**To be held at the Town Hall, Pinstone
Street, Sheffield, S1 2HH**

The Press and Public are Welcome to Attend

Membership

Councillors Ben Curran (Chair), Tim Huggan (Deputy Chair), Sue Auckland, Penny Baker, Dawn Dale, Adam Hurst, Karen McGowan, Anne Murphy, Peter Price, Kaltum Rivers, Chris Rosling-Josephs, Andrew Sangar, Richard Shaw and Sophie Wilson.

Substitute Members

In accordance with the Constitution, Substitute Members may be provided for the above Committee Members as and when required.

PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE MEETING

The Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Committee exercises an overview and scrutiny function in respect of the planning, development and monitoring of performance and delivery of services which aim to make Sheffield a safer, stronger and more sustainable city for all of its residents.

A copy of the agenda and reports is available on the Council's website at www.sheffield.gov.uk. You can also see the reports to be discussed at the meeting if you call at the First Point Reception, Town Hall, Pinstone Street entrance. The Reception is open between 9.00 am and 5.00 pm, Monday to Thursday and between 9.00 am and 4.45 pm. You may not be allowed to see some reports because they contain confidential information. These items are usually marked * on the agenda.

Members of the public have the right to ask questions or submit petitions to Scrutiny Committee meetings and recording is allowed under the direction of the Chair. Please see the website or contact Democratic Services for further information regarding public questions and petitions and details of the Council's protocol on audio/visual recording and photography at council meetings.

Scrutiny Committee meetings are normally open to the public but sometimes the Committee may have to discuss an item in private. If this happens, you will be asked to leave. Any private items are normally left until last. If you would like to attend the meeting please report to the First Point Reception desk where you will be directed to the meeting room.

If you require any further information about this Scrutiny Committee, please contact Deborah Glen, Policy and Improvement Officer, on 0114 27 35065 or email deborah.glen@sheffield.gov.uk

FACILITIES

There are public toilets available, with wheelchair access, on the ground floor of the Town Hall. Induction loop facilities are available in meeting rooms.

Access for people with mobility difficulties can be obtained through the ramp on the side to the main Town Hall entrance.

**SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY AND POLICY
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA
1 APRIL 2021**

Order of Business

- 1. Welcome and Housekeeping Arrangements**
- 2. Apologies for Absence**
- 3. Exclusion of Public and Press**
To identify items where resolutions may be moved to exclude the press and public
- 4. Declarations of Interest** (Pages 5 - 8)
Members to declare any interests they have in the business to be considered at the meeting
- 5. Minutes of Previous Meeting** (Pages 9 - 16)
To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 25th February, 2021.
- 6. Public Questions and Petitions**
To receive any questions or petitions from members of the public
- 7. Sheffield Safer and Sustainable Communities Partnership Annual Report**
Report to follow.
- 8. Work Programme 2020/21 and Future Work Programme** (Pages 17 - 20)
Report of the Policy and Improvement Officer.
- 9. Date of Next Meeting**
The next meeting of the Committee will be held on a date to be arranged.

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ADVICE TO MEMBERS ON DECLARING INTERESTS AT MEETINGS

If you are present at a meeting of the Council, of its executive or any committee of the executive, or of any committee, sub-committee, joint committee, or joint sub-committee of the authority, and you have a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest** (DPI) relating to any business that will be considered at the meeting, you must not:

- participate in any discussion of the business at the meeting, or if you become aware of your Disclosable Pecuniary Interest during the meeting, participate further in any discussion of the business, or
- participate in any vote or further vote taken on the matter at the meeting.

These prohibitions apply to any form of participation, including speaking as a member of the public.

You **must**:

- leave the room (in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct)
- make a verbal declaration of the existence and nature of any DPI at any meeting at which you are present at which an item of business which affects or relates to the subject matter of that interest is under consideration, at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent.
- declare it to the meeting and notify the Council's Monitoring Officer within 28 days, if the DPI is not already registered.

If you have any of the following pecuniary interests, they are your **disclosable pecuniary interests** under the new national rules. You have a pecuniary interest if you, or your spouse or civil partner, have a pecuniary interest.

- Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain, which you, or your spouse or civil partner undertakes.
- Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from your council or authority) made or provided within the relevant period* in respect of any expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

*The relevant period is the 12 months ending on the day when you tell the Monitoring Officer about your disclosable pecuniary interests.

- Any contract which is made between you, or your spouse or your civil partner (or a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest) and your council or authority –
 - under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed; and
 - which has not been fully discharged.

- Any beneficial interest in land which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, have and which is within the area of your council or authority.
- Any licence (alone or jointly with others) which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, holds to occupy land in the area of your council or authority for a month or longer.
- Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) –
 - the landlord is your council or authority; and
 - the tenant is a body in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest.
- Any beneficial interest which you, or your spouse or your civil partner has in securities of a body where -
 - (a) that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of your council or authority; and
 - (b) either -
 - the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body; or
 - if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you, or your spouse or your civil partner, has a beneficial interest exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

If you attend a meeting at which any item of business is to be considered and you are aware that you have a **personal interest** in the matter which does not amount to a DPI, you must make verbal declaration of the existence and nature of that interest at or before the consideration of the item of business or as soon as the interest becomes apparent. You should leave the room if your continued presence is incompatible with the 7 Principles of Public Life (selflessness; integrity; objectivity; accountability; openness; honesty; and leadership).

You have a personal interest where –

- a decision in relation to that business might reasonably be regarded as affecting the well-being or financial standing (including interests in land and easements over land) of you or a member of your family or a person or an organisation with whom you have a close association to a greater extent than it would affect the majority of the Council Tax payers, ratepayers or inhabitants of the ward or electoral area for which you have been elected or otherwise of the Authority's administrative area, or
- it relates to or is likely to affect any of the interests that are defined as DPIs but are in respect of a member of your family (other than a partner) or a person with whom you have a close association.

Guidance on declarations of interest, incorporating regulations published by the Government in relation to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests, has been circulated to you previously.

You should identify any potential interest you may have relating to business to be considered at the meeting. This will help you and anyone that you ask for advice to fully consider all the circumstances before deciding what action you should take.

In certain circumstances the Council may grant a **dispensation** to permit a Member to take part in the business of the Authority even if the member has a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest relating to that business.

To obtain a dispensation, you must write to the Monitoring Officer at least 48 hours before the meeting in question, explaining why a dispensation is sought and desirable, and specifying the period of time for which it is sought. The Monitoring Officer may consult with the Independent Person or the Council's Audit and Standards Committee in relation to a request for dispensation.

Further advice can be obtained from Gillian Duckworth, Director of Legal and Governance on 0114 2734018 or email gillian.duckworth@sheffield.gov.uk.

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Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee

Meeting held 25 February 2021

(NOTE: This meeting was held as a remote meeting in accordance with the provisions of The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020).

PRESENT: Councillors Ben Curran (Chair), Tim Huggan (Deputy Chair), Sue Auckland, Penny Baker, Lewis Dagnall, Dawn Dale, Adam Hurst, Karen McGowan, Anne Murphy, Peter Price, Kaltum Rivers, Andrew Sangar, Richard Shaw and Sophie Wilson

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1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 1.1 An apology for absence was received from Councillor Paul Wood (Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods and Community Safety).

2. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

- 2.1 No items were identified where resolutions may be moved to exclude the public and press.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 3.1 Councillor Ann Murphy declared a personal interest in Item 6 on the agenda – Homelessness and Rough Sleeping – on the grounds that she is a Trustee of Ben's Centre.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- 4.1 The minutes of the meetings of the Committee held on 10th December, 2020 and 7th January, 2021, were approved as correct records.

5. PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

- 5.1 There were no questions raised or petitions submitted by members of the public.

6. HOMELESSNESS AND ROUGH SLEEPING

- 6.1 The Committee received a report providing information on the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on homelessness and rough sleeping in Sheffield and setting out actions that had been put in place to deal with it. The report also set

out the arrangements that had been made to respond to the pandemic and the subsequent lockdowns in March and November.

- 6.2 Present for this item were Suzanne Allen, Head of City-Wide Housing Services , Tracey Ford, Communities and Development Worker, Daryl Bishop, Ben's Centre, Tim Renshaw, Archer Project, Maxine Stavrianakos, Head of Neighbourhood Intervention and Tenant Support Services and Zoe Young, Housing Options and Advice Service Manager.
- 6.3 Zoe Young stated that since March 2020, the Housing Options and Advice Service had seen a significant increase in people seeking temporary accommodation and there was a higher use of hotels, Bed and Breakfast accommodation and Council properties. She said that increase was, in some part, due to lockdown rules which prevented people who were staying with families or friends being allowed to stay where they were. The Council and its partners had worked to provide emergency accommodation and wraparound support to people at risk of, or found to be, rough sleeping in response to the pandemic. She stated that on 26th March, 2020, all Councils had been asked by the Government to give support to rough sleepers with immediate effect, and provide accommodation that had single en-suite rooms with catering facilities or provide food, and be accessible for people with disabilities. The Council block-booked suitable hotels which were managed by the Council and service providers, and were on hand daily, to provide housing support and offered additional security. Zoe Young stated that some people in emergency accommodation had no recourse to public funds. In December, 2020, the existing Weather Watch Scheme, which provided temporary accommodation should the temperature drop below zero, was replaced by the Winter Plan, which ensured that anyone found to be rough sleeping would be provided with emergency accommodation overnight or indefinitely if that was found to be necessary, regardless of the temperature. She stated that since the Homelessness Reduction Act came into force, changes required the Service to work with people for longer, to prevent the likelihood of them becoming homeless, although during the pandemic, prevention had decreased. As stated previously, one of the main reasons for homelessness during the pandemic was people being asked to leave premises by families and friends, with other reasons relating to domestic abuse and the ending of private tenancies, although this had decreased due to the temporary ban on evictions, and people leaving institutions such as care homes or prison.
- 6.4 Maxine Stavrianakos stated that she Chaired the Community Safety Sub-Cell Group, and that Community Safety Partnership had made available additional resources to work alongside the City-Wide Housing Service and the Housing Options and Advice Service to help tackle the problems facing rough sleepers.
- 6.5 Tracey Ford worked previously in the Substance Misuse Services, and was now seconded to the Community Safety Partnership in attempt to understand substance misuse and its effects. She had engaged with those who had been placed in hotels in getting to know them, and understand anti-social behaviour because of substance misuse and of those suffering disadvantages. The consultations held with those in hotels had proved helpful and was still in contact with some of them. In May, 2020, the Government appointed a National Recovery

Champion, who was working alongside Dame Carol Black, to research national treatment services and their availability. Sheffield was ahead of the game in engaging people with their experiences. During Covid, service providers, along with the Archer Project, Ben's Centre and St Wilfrid's, met twice weekly to address the needs of those that were vulnerable. A Recovery Forum had been set up, and its membership had been widened to include former service users and those who have suffered as they have a lot offer in term of their own experiences.

- 6.6 Daryl Bishop said many agencies had come together to co-ordinate what had to be done. At Ben's Centre, there wasn't the space to continue to work it does, so it had to close and become a donation centre for many items to be collected, such as toiletries, clothes, TVs etc. and given to those in need to make them as comfortable as possible. He said a magazine was devised in an attempt to interest people in other things rather than that was happening around them. He said Ben's Centre had worked alongside the Archer Project, St. Wilfrid's, HARK, soup kitchens and fare share in providing meals on wheels, and this was still operating as it had proved very successful. He said that Ben's Centre was helping to get its clients vaccinated, and had formed a Committee to look at how any gaps could be filled.
- 6.7 The Chair congratulated Tim Benshaw on his BEM award, and Tim Renshaw referred to the five perspectives to the work that had been undertaken during Covid. Firstly, the work that had been achieved by the Housing Team had been spectacular, the problems faced and the innovations that have been put in place need to be applauded. He said the establishment of the Housing First Team and the adjustment to the Winter Weather Plan was much improved, due to what it does with individuals. He said the way Services had worked together to give support to those living in hotels needed praise. He said the Archer Project had stayed open throughout the pandemic and increased the services on offer to seven days a week, due to a collection of services making it happen and making sure there was a contact point. He said some people left the hotels quickly, some were bullied, others were just not used to that environment and needed help dealing with that. He stated that service users got a better service in hotels, with two meals a day being provided as opposed to just breakfast in B&B accommodation, and they felt better looked after, had some sense of comfort, and settled home life. The complexity of the group who were prepared to stay on the street underlined the importance of the Changing Lives Fund, and this had highlighted the need for better communication on how to work with these groups by offering support. Tim Renshaw said it was essential to learn how to work with mental health services and contact services to give the help they need. Finally, he said that the Sector was a "can do" sector, that it had some dropped barriers that originally divided services and engagement on the street had worked really well, collaborative working had been extended and had worked across a whole range of disciplines such as health delivery out of the Devonshire Green Surgery who worked alongside other surgeries making sure the group was taken care of.
- 6.8 Members of the Committee made various comments and asked a number of questions, to which responses were given as follows:-
- Initially there will be 30 Council owned properties and the Housing Options

and Advice Service will look for the right homes, carry out an assessment of need, check with different agencies and a Rehousing Panel would look into any vulnerable issues that might arise. The Service would look into the housing pool and work out the correct property for an individual and see what package was available to make it work. People would have the one-to-one intensive support they received when living inside the hotels and constant reviews would be carried out. The Service was also asking housing associations to make properties available, so that not everyone was concentrated in Council properties, as some people prefer private living rather than Council-type living. It was not just about providing a roof over someone's head, but providing a life plan for these people.

- Funding was an issue but the Housing Service wanted to continue with the Housing First model and was confident that some of the rough sleeper funding received, will be carried through. There were wider costs if the right housing options were not available. The holistic partnership with the police and the Community Safety Partnership, had all agreed that there should be different approach to tackling the issues and the need make the best use of resources available.
- The Covid 19 Cell Group, chaired by the Head of City-Wide Housing and senior managers from Housing, Care, Health and Public Health, would continue to oversee the existing emergency provision and the Exit Strategy from emergency accommodation. Based on what had been learned throughout the pandemic, there was now an opportunity to make transformative changes to improve the experience and outcomes for service users.
- The Homelessness Prevention Strategy Steering Group and Homelessness Prevention Forum would ensure that all partners were linked in and involved in Sheffield's strategic vision of early intervention and the prevention of homelessness, and deliver the strategic objectives of increasing prevention, supporting the most vulnerable, tackling rough sleeping, improving health, and housing options and accessing employment, education and training.
- It was acknowledged that post-Covid, practically speaking, there would be challenges as it was expected that there would be increases in domestic abuse. There were approximately 25 rough sleepers every night in Sheffield compared with 80 to 100 as was experienced in other core cities, but Sheffield was working towards zero number, and was determined to never giving up on people. It was thought that homelessness would increase due to the wider issues, but the Council would continue to make the best use of resources available to it. There was a tendency in Sheffield for mainly single people to become homeless, very few of them being female, however, women who were homeless were extremely vulnerable and additional support was in place for them. The Council deals with families facing homelessness as it has more provision to help families. Single males tended to have complex needs covering a multitude of different issues, and there was a need to pinpoint why they become

homeless. In northern cities, there was a tendency for people who turn 18 to the ask the Council for accommodation.

- Rough sleepers had complex needs affected by homelessness, domestic abuse, substance abuse, mental health issues and criminal justice. It was not just about providing housing for them and removing them from the streets, but there was a need to look at other factors, such as mental health and early life trauma, whether it was caused within the criminal justice system, homelessness or from human trafficking. Other local authorities only dealt with those in priority need whereas in Sheffield, the Council tried to help everyone who needs it.
- There was a risk of being reactive rather than preventive, and this was across all partnerships. When there was an increased demand for services, the Council became more reactive and not able to deliver on prevention in the way it would like to. The needs are so complex, and it becomes harder to deliver on everything. The Council needs to make sure it makes best use of the resources available in dealing with the impact of the pandemic and the associated issues on the most vulnerable in our society. It was recognised that it can be hard for some people to see their way forward, and the Council would take a “person centred” approach seeing everyone as individuals and working with them, and ensure that there was a whole range of staff and agencies to work together and complement each other.
- There was a need to provide decent affordable housing to give people a sustainable home through choice. Some of these people have had issues for the whole of their lives, and don't always trust people, and these issues could not be fixed in a short period of time.
- The Sector tends to think about crisis and reaction. This can be crisis bias and what was needed was a front to back service, delivering a thoroughly worked out programme. The other thing to look at was how, as a city, the Council could invest in prevention, as over last the decade £136bn investment in the sector had been lost, and this needed to be addressed.
- Communication had been really good in letting people know what was available and reassuring members of the public that there were things that could be done to help and this help had come from a whole range of services, the voluntary and community sector, soup kitchens, the service users themselves by sharing their experiences.
- Those with drug and/or alcohol use problems already lived within neighbourhoods around the city, and not within the town centre. The Housing Options and Advice Service would ensure that these people were fully supported and were not reacting to someone in crisis and the wraparound approach was essential to achieve this. These people were both perpetrators as well as victims, and there was a need to be clear that these people were adults with rights and responsibilities, and the Council will work with them.

- It was agreed that hotel type accommodation was not a suitable setting for longer-term housing as there was a significant risk that, as the lockdown was eased, hotel providers would not continue to offer accommodation, as they will be wanting to re-open their businesses. However, anyone finding themselves back on the streets, would be offered some type of accommodation. It had been recognised that we may not be able to stop offering hotel type provision. There were nine people currently living in hotels that had no recourse to public funds, but they would continue to be supported as they don't have the same options as others, i.e. they cannot access benefits due to an asylum issue or EU national status. The Council wanted to be confident that it always had something to offer people, such as a place of safety, whatever their circumstances.
- The majority of people who applied as homeless remained in their current accommodation, but if it became impossible to stay for whatever reason, the Council would help them plan their move rather than move when at crisis point, the worst scenario would be go into temporary accommodation, it was thought much better for a planned move to be carried out.
- The Private Sector Housing Team checked private landlords to ensure that they were fit and proper, and that property was of sufficient quality.
- As the furlough scheme ended, it would be difficult to predict how many people would face hardship. We might be able to look at Council accommodation and know how many are having problems, but we don't know how many might be having mortgage difficulties. The Housing Service was working closely the Revenues and Benefits Department who were aware of people who were claiming benefits, and would explore every avenue to identify areas of concern.

6.9 RESOLVED: That the Committee:-

- (a) thanks Suzanne Allen, Tracey Ford, Daryl Bishop, Tim Renshaw, Maxine Stavrianakos and Zoe Young for their contribution to the meeting;
- (b) notes the contents of the report and the responses to the questions raised; and
- (c) requests that some formal recognition be made to those officers and volunteers who have worked tirelessly throughout the pandemic with the homeless and rough sleepers.

7. WORK PROGRAMME

7.1 The Committee received a report of the Policy and Improvement Officer on the Work Programme for the Committee.

7.2 RESOLVED: That the Committee:-

- (a) approves the contents of the Work Programme; and

- (b) agrees that a meeting be arranged so that the Housing Repairs Service can bring an update to the Committee on a date to be arranged.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 8.1 It was noted that the next meeting of the Committee will be held on Thursday, 18th March, 2021, at 5.00 p.m.

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Safer and Stronger Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee

Sheffield Safer and Sustainable Communities Partnership Annual Report

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Safer and Stronger Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee
1st April 2021

Maxine Stavrianakos
Head of Community Safety & Safer Neighbourhoods



Sheffield City Council



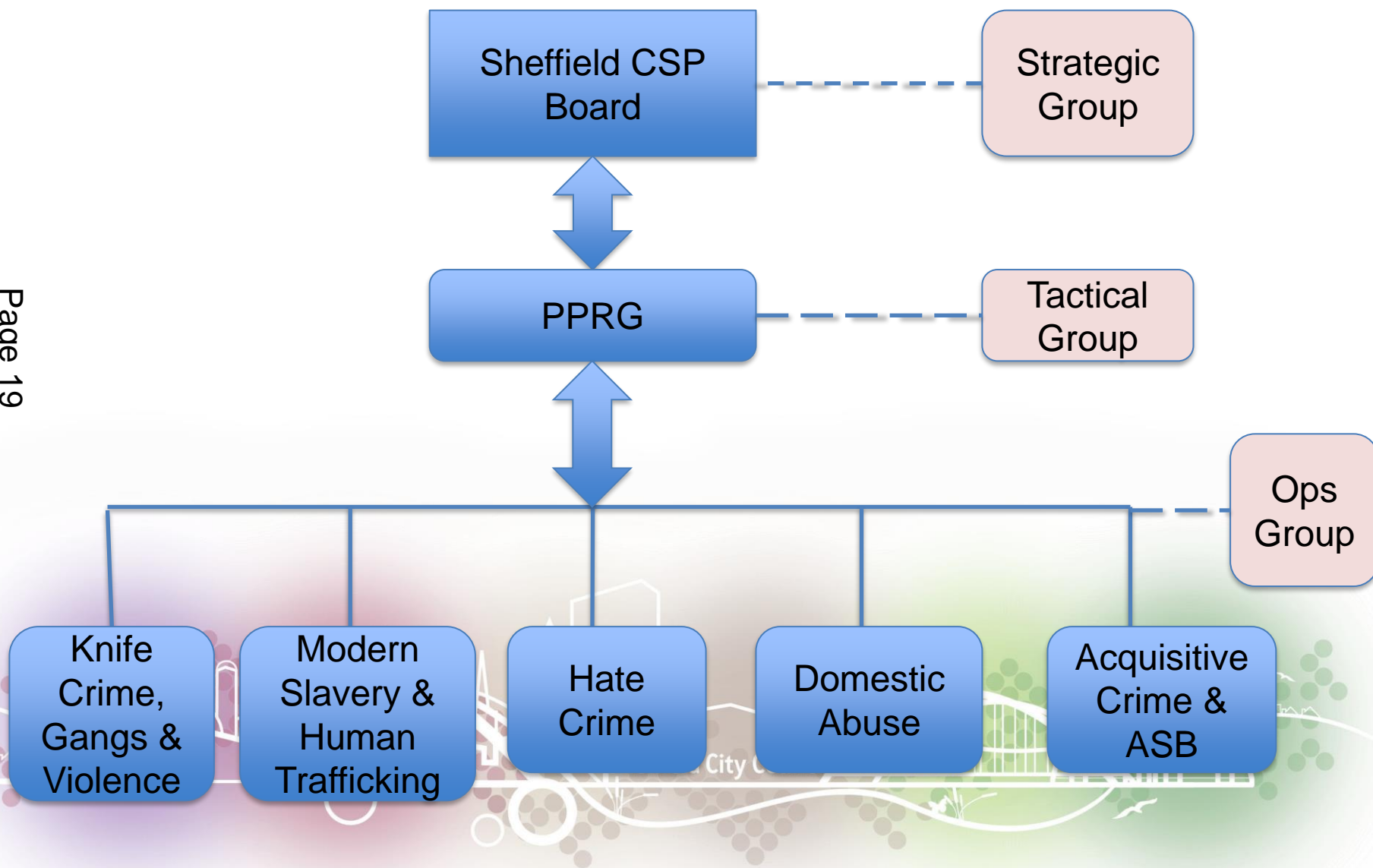
Agenda Item 7

Sheffield Community Safety Partnership

- Statutory Community Safety Partnership (CSP)
 - 6 statutory “responsible authorities” led by Local Authority and Police
 - Bring together expertise, knowledge, consistency of action
- Statutory requirement to have a local strategy for tackling Community Safety

CSP Current Partnership Structure

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Relationship with the Police and Crime Commissioner

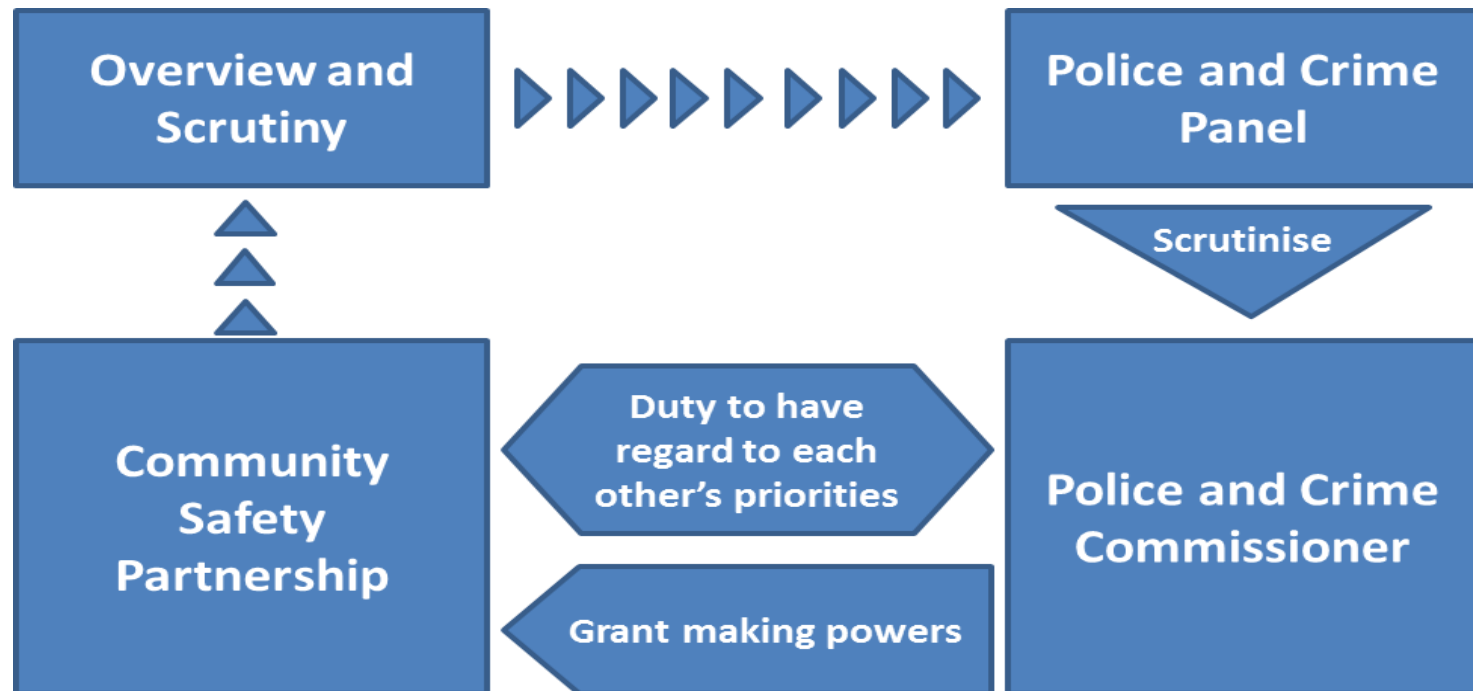
- The Community Safety Partnership and the Police and Crime Commissioner have a duty to have regard to each other's priorities.
- The Community Safety Partnership receive financial support via a grant from the Crime Commissioner to assist in achieving our set priorities



Police and Crime Commissioner

- Police and Crime Panel scrutinises PCC
- Duty for PCC and CSP to have regard to each other's priorities

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Community Safety Plan / Priorities

- Three Year Community Safety Plan (address priorities)
- Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment Review
(under taken every 12 months reference to crime and disorder information)

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New Priorities are currently being determined for period 2021 to 2024 via full JSIA process.

- Current priorities may change as a result of the JSIA Process.
 - Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking
 - Knife Crime, Gangs and Violence
 - Domestic Abuse
 - Hate Crime
 - Acquisitive Crime and ASB

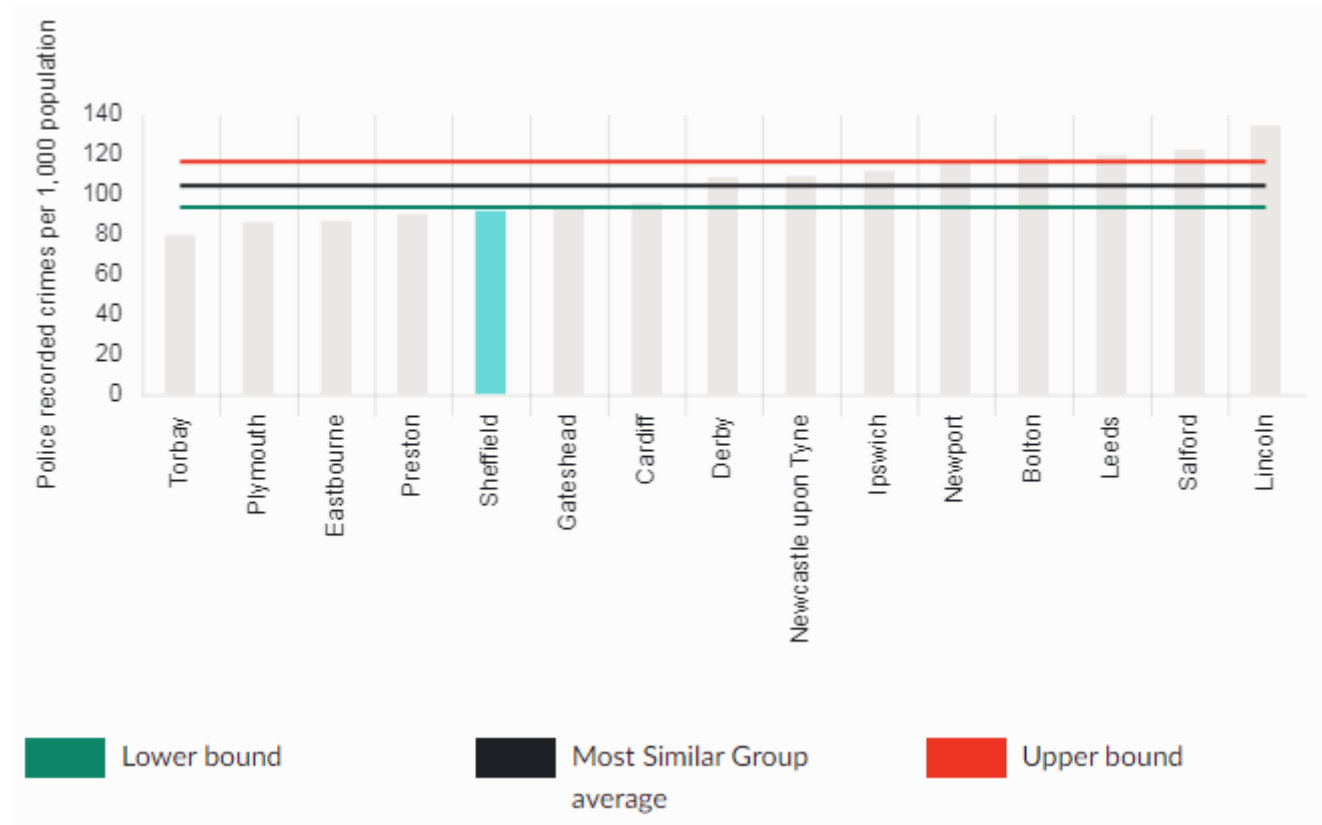
Community Safety Budget 2020/21

- Funding from PCC and SCC
- Fortify and Partnership analysts
- Supporting and protecting vulnerable people
- Hate Crime Coordinator
- Domestic abuse perpetrator programme
- Tackling crime, anti-social behaviour and reducing reoffending by specific projects



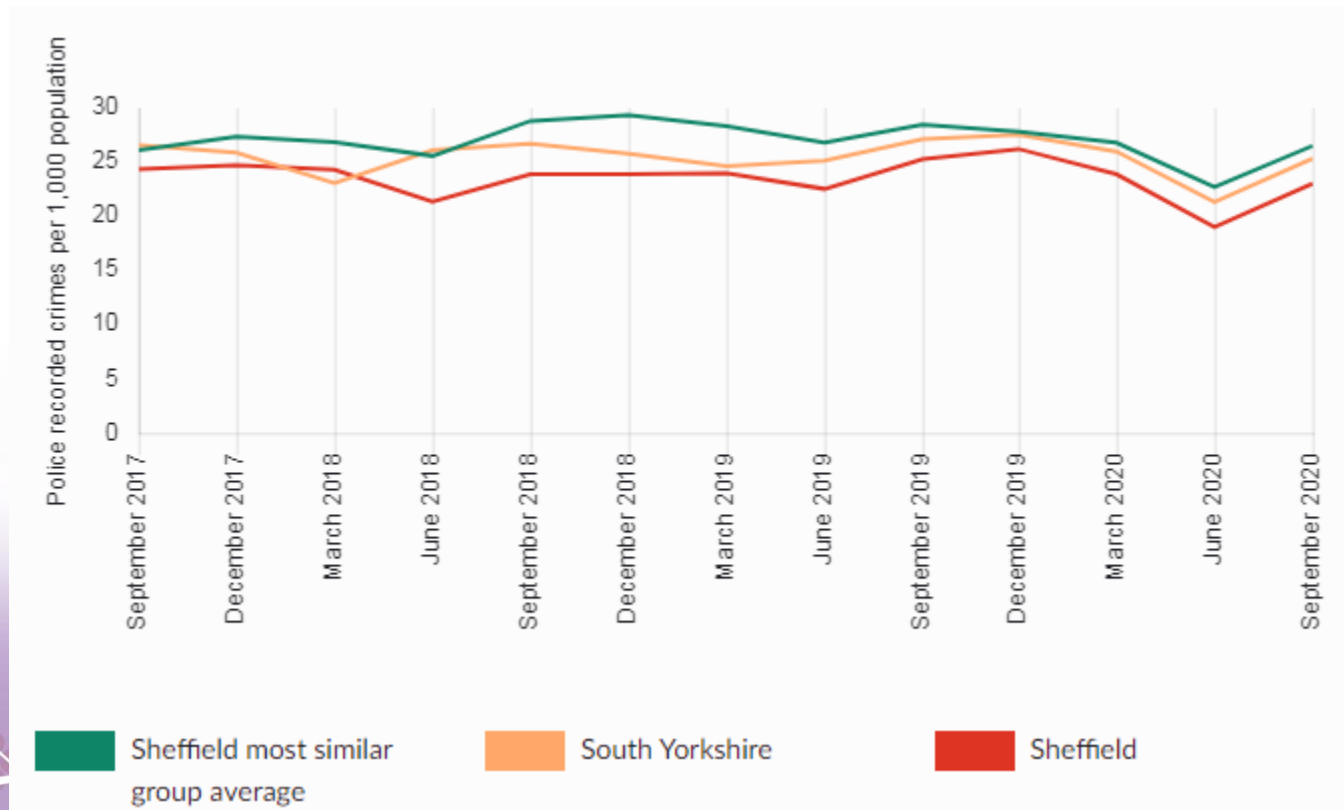
Performance Comparison – most similar groups

All crime per 1,000 population



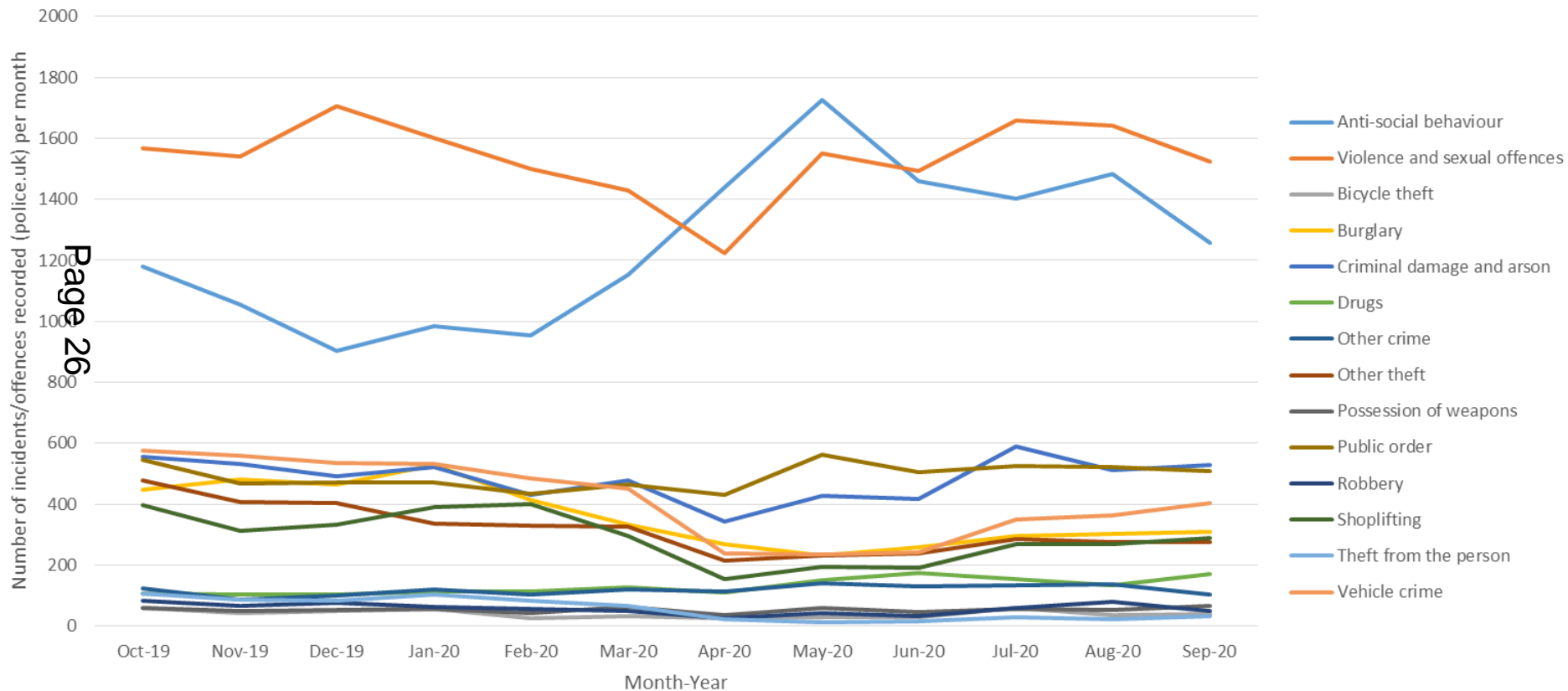
Performance Comparison – National Picture

All crime per 1,000 population



Crime and ASB Totals

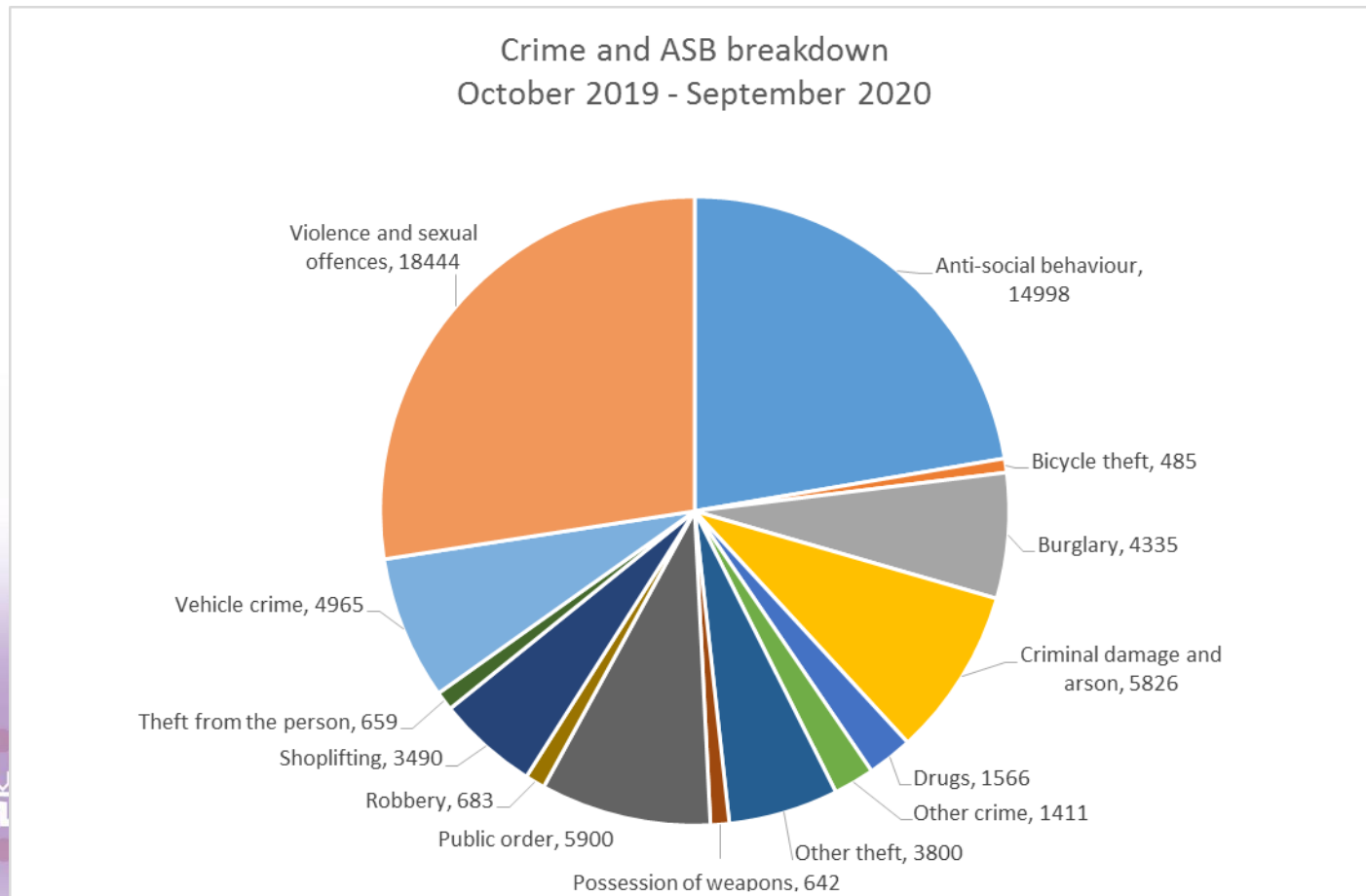
Crime and ASB totals over 12 month period October 2019 to September 2020



Crime Breakdown

Feb 19 – Jan 20

Crime Plus ASB Breakdown for Sheffield



Partnership Activities Summary

- Examples of Partnership Activities:
- Despite COVID Restrictions majority of funded CSP Projects have contributed to achieving their respective aims and objectives for example: Domestic Abuse have implemented Domestic and Sexual Abuse Strategy, Run a Domestic Abuse Campaign during Nov/Dec, Preparation re the new Domestic Abuse Bill and formulating Domestic Abuse Training Packages
- Response to COVID - Partnership have supported and engaged with other stakeholders' in promoting a 'City Centre' Action Plan
- Contributed Staff and expertise to VRU produced Action Plan for Sheffield and assisted in commissioning a number of projects Street Drs, Call It Out (Improving responses to LGBT & DA Victims)
- Currently working with the PCC's office and progressing a bid for Home Office Grant form the 'Safer Streets Fund'
- Reducing Burglary in Student accommodation

Safer Neighbourhood Services

- Partnership team now sat in Communities Service providing an integrated service for Communities linked in to LAC's
 - Community Safety
 - Safer Neighbourhood Co-ordinators
 - Reinstating the Neighbourhood Action Groups (NAG's)
 - Partnership Support
 - Community Justice Panels
 - City Centre ASB
 - Multi Tenure Anti-Social Behaviour
 - Social Housing, Private Landlords. Owner Occupiers
 - Safer Neighbourhood Wardens
 - Home Office Funded Prevent Team
 - South Yorkshire Police - Increase in resources
 - Inspector, Sergeant and PCs including Designing Out Crime Officer (DOCO)
 - ASB Problem Solving Unit – 1 sergeant & 5 PC's
 - Mental Health & Vulnerable Persons Team
 - Partnership Hate Crime Coordinator
 - Community Rehabilitation Company
 - South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue



South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit

- One of 18 areas to receive additional funding to form a Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) Unit Based In Sheffield

- Home Office specified a number of mandatory products:

South Yorkshire Area Profile– identifying the drivers of violence in local areas - completed

South Yorkshire serious violence response strategy – setting out the multi-agency response to be delivered by the SYVRU – completed Sheffield now has a Action Plan in place.

Sheffield VRU Action Plan in place managed by CSP Board

- SCC Support seconded staff from SCC are fully embedded within the VRU based in Sheffield
- Home Office Funding for 21/22

Sheffield City Council

Operation FORTIFY

Sheffield's multi-agency approach to tackling organised crime.
Activities undertaken

- Proactive disruption of organised crime gangs (OCG's)
- Asset Recovery
- Executing Warrants
- Drug Seizures
- Weapon Recovery
- Safeguarding Vulnerable
- Prosecute Offenders
- Coordinating Support Services for Vulnerable Adults and Children
- Re Housing high risk / vulnerable where appropriate

Fortify – So What

- Extracted vulnerable male adult from OCG exploitation (cuckooing) and temporarily rehoused outside the city. Male goes on to provide considerable amount of significant evidence around structure of OCG, including confirmation of key players. We have worked with housing and support services in host city to ensure obtains a secure tenancy away from potential exploitation. This has been achieved. Both SCC and SYP officers have not only safeguarded this key individual, but gone the extra mile in ensuring this individual can start anew in a new city. He has now found a job and has expressed his thanks to all involved from Fortify;
- Fortify continues to build up a wide knowledge of county lines, target the OCG organisers and work to support those young people they seek to exploit. The fortnightly Bronze meeting has been coordinating activity to safeguard a young person who has been exploited to run a county line into Merseyside. Colleagues from the Amber Project have been providing face to face support to divert the YP away from this activity and back into education – this has included regular visits and 1-1s, as well as considerable work with the parents in order to restrict movement and opportunities for exploitation. The YP has not subsequently been reported as missing, and work continues to keep them engaged.

Safer Neighbourhood Wardens

- Public Reassurance
 - SCC uniformed presence
 - Eyes and Ears -
- Supporting Social Distancing
- Operation Shield
 - Target Hardening
 - Reduction in Burglaries



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Report to Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee Thursday 1st April 2021

Report of: Policy and Improvement Officer

Subject: Work Programme 2020/21 and Future Work Programme: Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee

Author of Report: Alice Nicholson, Policy and Improvement Officer
alice.nicholson@sheffield.gov.uk

This report is a summary of the work of the Committee 2020/21. The usual pattern of meetings was disrupted by Covid-19, meetings were held virtually, and this Committee met in October, November, December 2020, January, February and lastly April 2021.

The work programme attached at Appendix 1 is the completed work programme 2020/21, it includes potential items the Committee might like to recommend for inclusion in a future draft work programme 2021/22.

Type of item: The report author should tick the appropriate box

Reviewing of existing policy	
Informing the development of new policy	
Statutory consultation	
Performance / budget monitoring report	
Cabinet request for scrutiny	
Full Council request for scrutiny	
Call-in of Cabinet decision	
Briefing paper for the Scrutiny Committee	
Other	X

The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:

- Note the work programme completed 2020/21
- Agree potential items to recommend for inclusion in a future draft work programme 2021/22

Background Papers: [Sheffield Council Constitution](#)

Category of Report: OPEN

Work Programme 2020/21 and Future Work Programme: Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee - Thursday 1st April 2021

1.0 What is the role of Scrutiny?

1.1 Scrutiny Committees exist to hold decision makers to account, investigate issues of local concern, and make recommendations for improvement. The Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (formerly the Centre for Public Scrutiny) has identified that effective scrutiny:

- Provides 'Critical Friend' challenge to executive policy makers and decision makers
- Enables the voice and concern of the public and its communities
- Is carried out by independent minded governors who lead and own the scrutiny process
- Drives improvement in public services and finds efficiencies and new ways of delivering services

1.2 The Centre for Governance and Scrutiny has updated its activity with several blogs and handy advice for scrutiny in Covid-19, and the Covid Act. These can be found on their web pages - <https://www.cfgs.org.uk/>.

1.3 Scrutiny Committees can operate in a number of ways – through formal meetings with several agenda items, single item 'select committee' style meetings, task and finish groups, and informal visits and meetings to gather evidence to inform scrutiny work. Committees can hear from Council Officers, Cabinet Members, partner organisations, expert witnesses, members of the public. Scrutiny Committees are not decision making bodies, but can make recommendations to decision makers.

2.0 Work programme 2020/21 and Future Work Programme 2021/22

2.1 The usual pattern of meetings was disrupted by Covid-19, meetings were held virtually, and this Committee met six times in 2020/21. Each year the Committee determines a work programme, which remains through the year. Appendix 1 is the completed work programme 2020/21.

2.2 In practice with previous years the outgoing Committee will highlight potential items to include in a future work programme 2021/22, examples of these are set out in Appendix 1.

3.0 Recommendations

3.1 The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to:

- Note the work programme completed 2020/21
- Agree potential items to recommend for inclusion in a future draft work programme 2021/22

Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny and Policy Development Committee

WORK PROGRAMME 2020/21

Last updated: 24th March 2021

Please note: this version is the completed work programme 2020/21

Safer & Stronger Communities		Thursday 5-7pm	
Topic	Reasons for selecting topic	Lead Officer/s	Agenda Item/ Briefing paper
Thursday 1st October 2020			
Domestic Abuse and Sexual Abuse during Covid 19	Members wished to investigate the impact that the lockdown associated with Covid 19 had on incidence of Domestic Abuse and the support services available		Agenda Item
Thursday 26th November 2020			
Hanover Tower Block	Requested by members following the publication of a full investigation report by the Council	Janet Sharpe, Director	Agenda item
Thursday 10th December 2020			
Fire Integrated Risk Management Plan	Requested by Members to allow input to the consultation – to include an invite to wider membership.	Chris Kirby, Stuart Booth	

Thursday 7th January 2021			
<i>Housing Repairs Service</i>			
Thursday 25th February 2021			
<i>Homelessness and Rough Sleeping</i>			
Thursday 1st April 2021			
Sheffield Safer and Sustainable Communities Partnership Annual Report	Annual report of Sheffield's Community Safety Partnership	Cllr Paul Wood, Maxine Stavrianakos, Mark Seston	
Potential items for future work programme 2021/22			
Housing Repairs – Further update			
Social Housing			
Violent crime and Anti-Social Behaviour			
Selective Licensing			