



18 March 2022

## SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 28 MARCH 2022

A meeting of the Scrutiny Committee will be held at 6pm on Monday 28 March 2022 in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, Rugby.

*Members of the public may view the meeting via the livestream on the Council's website.*

Mannie Ketley  
Executive Director

## A G E N D A

### PART 1 – PUBLIC BUSINESS

1. Minutes

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 2 March 2022.

2. Apologies

To receive apologies for absence from the meeting.

3. Declarations of Interest

To receive declarations of:

(a) non-pecuniary interests as defined by the Council's Code of Conduct for Councillors;

(b) pecuniary interests as defined by the Council's Code of Conduct for Councillors;

(c) notice under Section 106 Local Government Finance Act 1992 – non-payment of Community Charge or Council Tax.

***Note: Members are reminded that they should declare the existence and nature of their non-pecuniary interests at the commencement of the meeting (or as soon as the interest becomes apparent). If that interest is a pecuniary interest, the Member must withdraw from the room unless one of the exceptions applies.***

***Membership of Warwickshire County Council or any Parish Council is classed as a non-pecuniary interest under the Code of Conduct. A Member does not need to declare this interest unless the Member chooses to speak on a matter relating to their membership. If the Member does not wish to speak on the matter, the Member may still vote on the matter without making a declaration.***

4. Community Safety Annual Report.
5. Discussion with the Regulation and Safety Portfolio Holder.
6. Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme.

**Membership of the Committee:**

Councillors Eccleson (Chair), Gillias, Mrs Hassell, Mahoney, Mrs New, Mrs O'Rourke, Mrs Parker, Roodhouse and Dr Williams

*If you have any general queries with regard to this agenda please contact Linn Ashmore, Democratic Services Officer on 01788 533522 or email [linn.ashmore@rugby.gov.uk](mailto:linn.ashmore@rugby.gov.uk). Any specific queries concerning reports should be directed to the listed contact officer.*

***AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET***

<b>Report Title:</b>	Community Safety Annual Report
<b>Name of Committee:</b>	Scrutiny Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	28 March 2022
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	David Burrows
<b>Summary:</b>	<p>The report provides a summary of work in relation to Crime and Disorder, as delivered through the Rugby Community Safety Partnership.</p> <p>The report considers performance during the previous year, priorities for the forthcoming year and highlights several projects delivered through the Community Safety Partnership.</p>
<b>Financial Implications:</b>	None.
<b>Risk Management/Health and Safety Implications:</b>	None.
<b>Environmental Implications:</b>	None.
<b>Legal Implications:</b>	The committee is scrutinising the work of the Rugby Community Safety Partnership in accordance with S19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006.
<b>Equality and Diversity:</b>	No specific implications. Partnership priorities include hate crime.

**Scrutiny Committee - 28 March 2022**

**Community Safety Annual Report**

**Public Report of the Chief Officer - Regulation and Safety**

**Summary**

The report provides a summary of work in relation to Crime and Disorder, as delivered through the Rugby Community Safety Partnership.

The report considers performance during the previous year, priorities for the forthcoming year and highlights several projects delivered through the Community Safety Partnership.

**1. Introduction**

The 1998 Crime and Disorder Act requires 'responsible authorities' to work together to reduce crime and disorder at a local level. In England, the responsible authorities are the police, local authorities, fire and rescue authorities, health and probation services. The responsible authorities must work together to protect their local communities from crime and to help people feel safer.

The Scrutiny Committees have a statutory responsibility (at least once a year) to review the decisions and actions of the responsible authorities within the Rugby Community Safety Partnership in relation to their crime and disorder functions.

**2. The Rugby Community Safety Partnership**

The Rugby Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is well established with a good track record of understanding levels of risk within the Borough, producing action plans to deal with local community safety concerns and working across partners to maximise resources.

Over the past 12 months, the Rugby CSP has seen considerable change, not least due to the effects of the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic on crime and disorder.

In addition, a corporate restructure of what was Senior Management Team, but now Leadership Team occurred, in April 2021 which resulted in a service restructure approved by members in December 2022.

The community safety function is now within the Environmental Health and Community Safety Team which brings together teams with similar responsibilities

and improves resilience. The team is managed by Henry Biddington. The Council's Community Wardens, who have a very good reputation with elected members for providing front line proactive and reactive services including out of hours and at weekends, is part of this team. Denise Lott, Community safety and Anti-Social Behaviour Coordinator is also a key member of the team.

Following a request from the Chair of the Rugby Community Safety Partnership, Cllr Derek Poole, a review of the role of the Board has been carried out by the Warwickshire County Council Community Safety Team which aims to support the Board to be more inclusive, improve strategic planning and more closely link to the officer groups, including monitoring performance.

Early outcomes of this are a strategic move away from 1 years targets to setting priorities for 4 years; including Leaders of Opposition Parties in confidential Board briefings; and officers reviewing the specific groups which feed into the Board and Partnership.

This has been reflected in a review of the Priority Action Group (PAG), which meets between CSP Board meetings, primarily to consider actions arising from the CSP Board and to receive analytical reports to inform future agenda items for the CSP Board.

The PAG has been very well attended by a broad range of partners and has been heavily involved in the production of the Strategic Assessment and is currently heavily involved in the production of revised resulting action plans. Following the review of the PAG meeting this has been mirrored in the monthly Problem Solving Meeting (PSP) which is the operational meeting to implement actions arising from the PAG and the CSP Board.

The Rugby CSP has also recognised the ever-growing importance of working with our Countywide partners and partnerships, both because of the cross-border nature of some crimes and in recognition on the resourcing constraints of individual agencies.

To this end, the Rugby CSP has increased its engagement in the Countywide Community Safety Officers Group, the Serious and Organised Crime Joint Action Group, the Warwickshire Prevent Steering Group, the Warwickshire Hate Crime Partnership, the Northern Warwickshire Hate Incident Panel, the Warwickshire Reducing Reoffending Strategy, Domestic Abuse Emerging Trends group, Violence Against Women and Girls group and the overarching Safer Warwickshire Partnership Board.

In addition to local (Rugby based) partners, the CSP continues to forge strong links with countywide partners including the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Warwickshire County Council, Warwickshire Police and numerous Third Sector Organisations.

Knife crime is a priority in the Borough and Warwickshire Police have been leading in tackling this crime supported by partners including Rugby Borough Council and Warwickshire County Council. A campaign is currently being planned in schools. In

addition, following an incident at a local college, a briefing was given to members which is planned to be a more regular event including other areas of activity of the Partnership.

A Violence Against Women and Girls squad (an officer group used to start the process before engagement with other stakeholders including councillors) has been set up by the council chaired by Henry Biddington, Environmental Health and Community Safety Manager. A survey was carried out by the council in May 2021 of women and girls to get feedback on what our priorities should be. This showed that a significant number of women and girls had suffered unwanted sexual attention (often things like passing comments from men walking or in vehicles) and showed a number of issues that had not been anticipated, e.g. women being followed in public areas like supermarkets, which showed the need for the local survey and also a local plan. We are also supporting a Warwickshire wide WCC group.

Rugby Borough Council has received funding from the government's Safer Streets 3 fund, with the assistance of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Warwickshire County Council, for works to reduce the risk to women and girls which is being used for projects to improve CCTV and lighting on the Black Path and railway bridge. These works should be completed in the next few weeks.

It will also be linked to the Home Secretary's Enough Campaign.

We continue to work with Warwickshire Police and partners on preventing terrorism. Work has also started on preparing for a new duty regarding anti-terrorism protection of buildings and spaces with public access.

### **3. 2021/22 Strategic Assessment**

#### **3.1 Overview**

Strategic Assessments are assessments of crime and disorder, which allow Community Safety Partnerships to respond more effectively to the community, plan activity, allocate resources and deliver activities that focus on priorities and achieve results.

The Rugby CSP Strategic Assessment 2021/22 was produced by the Warwickshire County Council Insight Service and was commissioned with the intention of providing Rugby with:

- A review of 2020/21 priorities;
- Analysis of crime and disorder to inform future priority setting;
- The identification of any areas of concern;
- Recommendations for the suggested 2021/22 priorities.

This was used at the CSP Board meeting in February 2021 to set 6 priorities and 3 cross cutting themes and instead of the usual 1 year plan, the priorities were set for 4 years to allow longer term action rather than short term gains.

The priorities are:

- Young people linked to knife related violent crime
- Personal robbery
- Retail business crime
- Domestic abuse
- Exploitation of young people
- Hate crime

The cross cutting themes are:

- Drugs and alcohol
- Reducing re-offending
- Cyber crime

### **3.2 2021/22 Performance Summary**

The Rugby CSP Crime and Disorder Data table for 2021/22 is shown in Appendix 1.

The table shows crime and disorder data relating to CSP priorities in Rugby for 1st January 2021 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 and compares it to the previous 12 months. It also compares the data to county data.

Care has to be taken with this data and the 2 years that are compared were both affected by COVID-19 restrictions which changed the patterns of crime. Now that restrictions have been lifted the patterns may change again and so are being monitored.

It should be noted that during the pandemic both Rugby Borough Council and Warwickshire Police have continued to provide front line community based and back office community protection services.

The Commentary in Appendix 1 provides a summary of the data.

Knife crime is still an issue, but while we had previously identified an issue with young people carrying them, it now appears to be mainly home based, and while domestic abuse is part of the reason.

Lockdown is suspected to be a significant reason for increased violence without injury and other domestic abuse issues.

Warwickshire County Council provide a multi-agency risk assessment conference (MARAC) to support victims of domestic abuse and is funded by the county council and Warwickshire districts and borough councils and Warwickshire Police. This service has recently been expanded supported by Rugby.

Hate offences are an area of concern, but analysis has shown that this is a changing problem, e.g. during Brexit it was mainly against Eastern Europeans, but now LGBT+ seem to be the main one. One of our actions, which includes the work on

violence against women and girls, is to encourage more reporting of these incidents. A common comment is 'why bother no one will take any action'. The reality is that our priorities have to be evidence lead and so if they are not reported, we do not know the level of the problem.

An action plan is being developed through the PAG which will seek to address the priorities through focussing currently available resource or through securing additional resource.

## **4. Projects Showcase**

The following projects demonstrate some of the additional work which has been commissioned by the Rugby CSP over the past 12 months. The projects described are funded from CSP budgets, derived from either RBC core budgets or Police and Crime Commissioner grant funding.

### **4.1 Reducing Re-offending – Futures Unlocked**

Rugby Community Safety Partnership has continued to provide financial support for Futures Unlocked for their work with ex-offenders.

Futures Unlocked is a charity whose purpose over the last 18 years has been to train and enable volunteer mentors to provide practical, emotional and spiritual support to ex-prisoners returning to the community. For the last seven years the charity has been based in Rugby and delivers mentoring support to the whole of Warwickshire.

There are currently upwards of 40 volunteer mentors who have been trained by the charity to provide mentoring support across a range of pathways identified by research and adopted by the HM Prisons and Probation Service as providing the most sustainable desistance from crime.

The management of a case involved an in depth assessment by a Community Chaplain staff member, a match meeting between client, mentor and Chaplain and, only when all are content to proceed, regular meetings between mentor and client with 6 weekly review meetings between all three. At review the parties triangulate scorings to establish distance travelled on the pathways. These scorings are further rendered into a RAG (red, amber, green) rating.

### **Projects**

During 2021, the principal projects that they operated were:

#### **Through the Gate “Meet and Mentor”**

Futures Unlocked was contracted to a Tier 1 provider to a Community Rehabilitation Company to deliver in-reach work in our resettlement prisons, a prison gate pick up and 10 further mentoring meetings in the community. Following a change in the manner in which probation services are delivered, this contract was terminated in June 2021. They are now trying to establish with the Probation Service their future role in delivering probation services.

### **Out of area mentoring**

This provides support to clients who are located in prisons other than their resettlement prisons who are returning to Warwickshire and the West Midlands. The resettlement departments in these out of area prisons are not as well acquainted with the particular issues and demands of this locality in terms of resettlement and rehabilitation.

### **Core mentoring**

This provides mentoring support to clients already released but deemed to require support to achieve long lasting resettlement. There is no time limitation attached to this project though it is unlikely to go on for longer than 12 months. Cases which start in the above two projects can and do migrate to core mentoring if the case demands.

### **Funding**

Their principal funding during the year has come from:

The National Lottery Community Fund	£50,944
National Probation Service	£9,999
Warwickshire & West Mercia Community Rehabilitation	£7,735
Rugby Community Safety Partnership	£28,000
Warwickshire Police and Crime Commissioner	£10,000
Alan Lane Foundation	£7,500

### **Referrals in 2021**

During 2021 they received 101 referrals.

Of these referrals there were the following priority cases

Domestic Abuse Serial Perpetrator	3
Other Integrated Offender Management	12
Imprisonment for Public Protection/Lifers	8
Multi Agency Public Protection	2
Sex Offences	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>

The referrals were received from the following areas

Rugby	20
Leamington	38
Nuneaton	32
Coventry	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>101</b>

### Outcomes

Pathway	Start			End			Movement on pathways
	Red	Amber	Green	Red	Amber	Green	
Accommodation	13	8	2	-	7	16	-13 Red to +14 Green
Alcohol	2	6	15	1	5	17	-1 Red to +2 Green
Drugs	6	4	15	-	7	16	-6 Red to +1 Green
Education	-	6	17	-	5	18	+1 Green
Employment	13	8	2	10	5	8	-3 Red to +6 Green
Faith	-	5	18	-	3	20	+2 Green
Family	4	11	8	1	9	13	-3 Red to +5 Green
Finance/debt	10	10	3	1	16	6	-9 Red to +3 Green
Health	7	11	5	2	17	4	-5 Red to -1 Green
Social life	3	17	3	1	14	8	-2 Red to + 5 Green
TAB	2	14	7	1	13	9	-1 Red to +2 Green
<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>135</b>	Average 58% improvement across all pathways with some; Accommodation, Finance, Drugs; showing significant improvement.

## **4.2 ASB Case Management – Rugby CSP**

Within the CSP we have been working with various agencies, through the ASB Case Management Group, to reduce ASB to victims and to support young people engaged in ASB.

We work hard to bring together the agencies who can make a difference to ASB and all the other issues to our ASB Case Management meetings. Partners who are engaged include several of Rugby's schools, housing providers, youth workers, Warwickshire Youth Justice Service, Rugby First, Warwickshire Police, WCC Early Help and Support and Social workers. Case Management meetings are used to discuss interventions, and to offer commitment and support to the young people/parents who are struggling with issues relating to ASB.

The ASB Case Management Group refer young people to numerous agencies for specialist support, including referrals to Compass, for young people who have drug issues; referrals to 'Ontrack' (part of RBC sports and recreation) for one to one support where individuals are otherwise disengaged; and referrals to Warwickshire Youth Justice Service where young people who are moving beyond ASB and into criminality, exploitation and county lines.

We use numerous interventions where young people are causing issues relating to ASB, including warning letters, Antisocial Behaviour Contracts (ABCs) to make parents and children aware of what is acceptable and what is not, Community Protection Notices (CPNs) to make young people or their parents responsible for their actions.

Working with all the agencies has made a difference in various areas which were suffering from high levels of ASB. This has helped to make residents of those areas feel safer in their homes and provided visible evidence of agencies working together in the interest of Community Safety.

Dealing with ASB not only tackles the immediate issue but also prevents many people who could become involved in serious crime being supported to help them stop offending.

Rugby Borough Council has a team of Community Wardens – a reactive team who attend reports of ASB within Rugby, manage areas where youths are gathering and move individuals on where they are causing any nuisance. Wardens will identify those who are termed as ringleaders in ASB and link in with Warwickshire Police to discuss any actions we can take together.

One success story involves the council's Community Wardens where an individual was engaged in ASB. They responded to complaint calls quickly, identified the individual and then working with them and identified a sports activity they are now doing, so ASB stopped, the community were pleased with the action taken and the individual is less likely now to become a persist or priority offender.

All partners work closely with Warwickshire police to combat ASB and nuisance behaviour to reduce ASB in our communities and support victims, young people and residents of Rugby.

Appendix 1 shows that ASB is a significant issue in the borough with nearly 2000 incidents reported each year. It is reassuring to note that ASB is reducing by a very large 34%, but again caution is needed. Nuisance complaints increased at the start of the lockdown due to more people being at home carrying out activities that caused nuisance to neighbours (e.g. music or bonfires) while others became victims. The removal of lockdown has resulted in resources such as the Community Wardens and Warwickshire Police taking quick action to try to prevent traditional ASB becoming established again.

### **4.3 Schools Engagement**

Through grant funding from the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner we have supported Loud Mouth to carry out educational theatre workshops in 4 high schools in Rugby. Loudmouth Education and Training is a highly respected and innovative theatre in education company.

The workshops and educational theatre road shows which ran in Rugby schools is called Working For Marcus and covers education around Child exploitation (CE), child sexual exploitation (CSE), county lines, grooming.

The schools that engaged and hosted Loudmouth were Avon Valley School, Rugby Free School, Bilton School and Harris Church of England Academy. A review and evaluation of this work is currently taking place through engagement with students that took part.

**Name of Meeting:** Scrutiny Committee  
**Date of Meeting:** 28 March 2022  
**Subject Matter:** Community Safety Annual Report  
**Originating Department:** Regulation and Safety

**DO ANY BACKGROUND PAPERS APPLY**       YES       NO

**LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

<b>Doc No</b>	<b>Title of Document and Hyperlink</b>



## Rugby CSP Crime and Disorder Data Table

### Confirmed Priorities for 2021/22

The below priorities for 2021/22 were agreed at the Rugby Borough CSP Board on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021:





## Data Table for Crime and Disorder

The below table shows crime and disorder data relating to the CSP priorities in Rugby Borough for 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021. A comparison to the previous 12-month period is included, using a colour coded RAG<sup>i</sup> status.

Rugby Borough	Indicator	Jan - Dec 2020	Jan - Dec 2021	Volume Change	% Change	County % Change
Priority Theme: Violent Crime - including Section 18 and 20 Woundings	Violence with injury	842	823	-19	-2%	2%
	Violence with injury - domestic abuse flag	315	321	6	2%	-7%
	<i>Violence with injury - domestic abuse flag - as a % of total violence with injury</i>	37%	39%	0	4%	-3%
	Violence without injury	2,121	2,320	199	9%	5%
	Violence without injury - domestic abuse flag	866	888	22	3%	1%
	<i>Violence without injury - domestic abuse flag - as a % of total violence without injury</i>	41%	38%	0	-6%	-2%
	Rape	95	110	15	16%	23%
	<i>Other sexual offences</i>	169	187	18	11%	5%
	<i>Section 18 wounding with intent to do GBH</i>	79	54	-25	-32%	3%
	<i>Section 20 malicious wounding: wounding or inflicting GBH</i>	38	35	-3	-8%	11%
	Knife related violent crime	51	55	4	8%	-14%
	VAP Knife Suspects aged 18 years old and under	15	15	0	0%	33%
	MARAC - Number of cases discussed (RUGBY)	163	144	-19	-12%	-8%
	<i>Number of repeat cases</i>	49	47	-2	-4%	47%
Priority Theme: Personal Robbery	Personal Robbery	63	80	17	27%	-3%
Priority Theme: Business Crime	Business Crime	1,005	885	-120	-12%	-18%
	<i>Shoplifting</i>	464	389	-75	-16%	-21%
	<i>Making off without Payment</i>	76	87	11	14%	-2%
Priority Theme: Road Safety	People killed or seriously injured in road traffic	40	51	11	28%	-2%
	<i>Fatal</i>	3	2	-1	-33%	29%
	<i>Serious</i>	37	49	12	32%	-4%
Cross-Cutting Theme: Vulnerability - focus on Domestic Abuse, MSHT, Child Exploitation, PREVENT	Hate Offences and Non Crimed Investigations	199	253	54	27%	29%
	<i>Domestic Abuse Offences and Non Crimed Investigations</i>	2,220	2,338	118	5%	1%
	<i>CSE Offences and Non Crimed Investigations</i>	29	23	-6	-21%	41%
Cross-Cutting Theme: Drugs and Alcohol	<i>Violence with and without injury - Alcohol Related Flag</i>	258	222	-36	-14%	-9%
	<i>Violence with and without injury - Drugs Related Flag</i>	16	15	-1	-6%	-9%
Other Performance Measures of Note: Anti-Social Behaviour	Total Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents	2,765	1,822	-943	-34%	-29%
	<i>Personal</i>	395	324	-71	-18%	-18%
	<i>Nuisance</i>	1,825	1,276	-549	-30%	-25%
	<i>Environmental</i>	545	222	-323	-59%	-50%
	Deliberate small fire Incidents (WFRS)	38	31	-7	-18%	-19%
Priority Theme: Cyber Fraud* (Apr 20 - Dec 21)	Cyber Fraud Offences*	17	20	3	18%	12%
<b>Total Recorded Crime</b>	<b>Total Recorded Crime</b>	<b>7,340</b>	<b>7,328</b>	<b>-12</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>-2%</b>



\* 'Cyber Fraud - Theft' offences only incorporate offences with a cyber flag relating to 'Theft,' Theft other' and 'blackmail' offences. Data has only been captured from April 2020 and is therefore only comparable from April to December 2020 and 2021

### **Caveats:**

- ASB Data - Due to a technical issue at Warwickshire Police with the link between STORM and Business Objects, incident data is incomplete for 2021 and will be rectified in due course.

### **Sources:**

- *STORM Incident System, Warwickshire Police*
- *Crime Information System, Warwickshire Police*
- *MARAC Performance Data*
- *Deliberate Small Fires, Warwickshire Fire and Rescue*
- *KSI data, Road Safety Team WCC*
- *Athena Warwickshire Police Reporting System, From October 2017*
- *Integrated Offender Management Unit, Warwickshire Police*

### **Commentary**

*It is important to remember that the data in the table above is compared to the previous year which involved long periods of national lockdown and government restrictions on public activity due to the COVID-19 pandemic since March 2020. This led to unusual low volumes of crime and associated trends, linked to limited opportunities for some crime types to occur. Therefore, many areas of crime and disorder are showing increases during 2021 when compared to the unusual trends in 2020.*

During 2021, increases of note in Rugby Borough have been seen in violence without injury offences, including domestic abuse. However, this is a countywide trend with a prolonged period of confinement at the beginning of 2021 (January-March 2021), as well as continued COVID-19 restrictions in place during parts of the year, limiting opportunities for other types of violence to occur. Increased reliance on social media and malicious communications as a means to continue to commit violent offences during restricted periods has contributed to increases in violence without injury during 2021. In comparison, a positive trend has been seen in section 18 and 20 woundings and violence with injury offences, with reductions compared to the previous 12 month period in the borough. This is in comparison to the increases at county level.

More concerning to Rugby Borough is the proportional increases in knife related offences, personal robbery, rapes and sexual offences. Most of these do not represent a wider county trend, identifying these as areas of specific concern for the CSP. The increase in knife related offences does not appear to be linked to those suspects aged 18 or under. Analysis indicates that that the majority of knife related violence offences occurred in the home, although only a quarter were recorded as being domestic abuse related. Two thirds of personal robberies occurred in a public place as expected. The increases in rape offences may be due to reporting of historical offences, with nearly half of rapes reported in 2021 occurring prior to that time.

The overall reduction in business crime in Rugby Borough compared to 2020 is significant as businesses were closed for a large proportion of 2020, limiting opportunities for many crimes of this nature to occur. Indeed, it was inferred that the easing of restrictions after April 2021 would lead to more opportunities for business crime, but this has not been reflected in reported offence volumes. However, there has been an increase in make offs without payment offences in the borough and it



appears that some of this increase may be due to the presence of a new motorway services in the borough. In addition, the continuing increase in fuel prices and a nationwide fuel shortage crisis seen in the latter part of the year may also have contributed to the higher volumes of this type of offence. Further financial impacts on local residents as a result of rising energy bills and benefit cuts may result in continued high volumes of offences such as make offs without payment and also possible increases in shoplifting over the next 12 month period.

Cyber fraud has slightly increased in Rugby Borough during 2021 and it is likely that this is linked to more people utilising online spaces for shopping and socialising as a result of restrictions on frequenting public places. However, the increases in reports of cyber fraud may also indicate a good level of awareness of residents to report incidents.

ASB volumes during 2021 have been much lower than last year. However, this is compared to a period last year where breaches in COVID-19 restrictions were recorded as ASB which hugely inflated ASB volumes during 2020.

Another risk area to the CSP this year has been hate crime with large volume increases, reflecting the county trend. The majority of hate crime continues to be racist related with homophobic and disability related offences also reported in relatively high volumes. Of note, is the increase in religious related hate crime in the borough during 2021, specifically involving Muslim victims.

Killed or seriously injured road incidents have increased compared to last year in the borough although this is in comparison to 2020 when the country was experiencing continued periods of lockdown resulting in highly reduced volumes of traffic on the road and therefore less opportunities for road traffic incidents to occur. However, the higher proportional increase of serious incidents in the borough, compared to the county average, may indicate a possible emerging issue for the CSP to consider.

Despite the uncertainties linked to COVID-19 and the consequent impact on residents, vulnerability indicators such as substance misuse and CSE offences have reduced in the borough. However, this may also indicate a lack of identification of these factors and may represent a risk area for the CSP.

Domestic abuse offences have increased in the borough compared to last year, with a slightly higher overall increase than the countywide average. This may represent a risk area for the CSP, with domestic related violence being of specific note here. However, it is important to highlight that increased volumes may also indicate a greater willingness to report offences, and perhaps reflect increased access to support services to report offences compared to during 2020.

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<sup>i</sup> Red for increases of 5% and over; amber for increases or decreases of less than 5%; green for decreases of 5% and over.

***AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET***

<b>Report Title:</b>	Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme
<b>Name of Committee:</b>	Scrutiny Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	28 March 2022
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Linn Ashmore, Democratic Services Officer, Tel: 01788 533522
<b>Summary:</b>	The report updates the Committee on the progress of task group reviews within its remit and details the overview and scrutiny forward work programme.
<b>Financial Implications:</b>	There are no financial implications arising from this report.
<b>Risk Management Implications:</b>	There are no risk management implications arising from this report.
<b>Environmental Implications:</b>	There are no environmental implications arising from this report.
<b>Legal Implications:</b>	There are no legal implications arising from this report.
<b>Equality and Diversity:</b>	No new or existing policy or procedure has been recommended.

**Scrutiny Committee - 28 March 2022**

**Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme**

**Summary**

The report updates the Committee on the progress of task group reviews within its remit and details the overview and scrutiny forward work programme.

**1. REVIEWS**

**1.2 Current Task Group Reviews**

The Graffiti Task Group has met twice and is continuing its work.

**1.3 New Review Work**

The following reviews were agreed at the last meeting on 2 March for task groups to be formed and commence work:

- Member and Officer Working
- Access to Emergency Health Care Provision

Work is currently in progress to seek volunteers for the task groups and to agree meeting dates.

**1.4 Review of Short-Term Improvements to the Town Centre**

Work has been carried out by officers to explore the understanding of the ambitions and scope for a review. The Chief Officer – Regulation and Safety will be present at the meeting to provide a verbal update.

**2. WORK PROGRAMME**

**2.1 Current Work Programme**

A copy of the current work programme is attached at Appendix 1.

### **3. FORWARD PLAN**

The topics currently listed in the Forward Plan for the period April – July 2022 are available to download [here](#)

### **4. CONCLUSION**

The committee is asked to:

- a) note the progress in the task group reviews; and
- b) agree the future work programme for the committee.

**Name of Meeting:** Scrutiny Committee  
**Date of Meeting:** 2 March 2022  
**Subject Matter:** Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme

**DO ANY BACKGROUND PAPERS APPLY**       **YES**       **NO**

**LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

<b>Doc No</b>	<b>Title of Document and Hyperlink</b>

## Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme

Date of meeting 2021/22	Item	Report Description
All meetings	Motions referred to scrutiny	
All meetings	Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme	Long-term rolling work programme.
18 July 2022	Draft Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report	An overview of the work carried out by scrutiny during 2021/22.
18 July 2022	Discussion with Portfolio Holder/s and Chief Officer/s	Growth and Investment Portfolio Holder and the Chief Officer – Growth and Investment to attend.
18 July 2022	Impact of the rise in energy costs on residents.	To receive a report on the support available for residents.
18 July 2022	Review on the topic of Managing Housing Arrears	To receive a report on the outcomes of an internal audit on housing tenant arrears.
18 July 2022	Discussion with Portfolio Holder/s and Chief Officer/s	To be confirmed: Operations and Traded Services Portfolio Holder and Deputy Chief Executive to attend. The item will cover the Street Cleansing topic included on the work programme at the meeting held on 22 November 2021.
3 October 2022	Annual Performance Report and discussion with the Leader of the Council	The item will include an update on the strategies and action plans that feed into the delivery of the Corporate Strategy.
28 November 2022	To be agreed	
30 January 2023	To be agreed	
27 March 2023	To be agreed	

**Items to be scheduled**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Report Description/Notes</b>
Review of Managing Arrears (Council Tax)	Progress or final review report.
Annual review of Member training and development	Annual overview.
Motions to Council	Progress of Motions submitted to Council.
Review of Graffiti	Final review report to be received on completion of the work of the Task Group.
Planning Enforcement	This will be covered during discussion with the Portfolio Holder and Chief Officer – Growth and Investment at the meeting on 18 July 2022.
Review of Communication	To include internal and external communication.

**Future work programme Items carried over from 2020/21 to be scheduled**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Corporate Strategy	To be agreed	Included on the work programme for the meeting on 3 October 2022.
Health and Wellbeing	To be agreed	Linked to recovery of the Covid-19 pandemic. A place-based Health and Wellbeing Strategy has had initial conversations between Chief Officer for Leisure & Wellbeing and Chief Officer Communities & Homes to outline the development of the new strategy. External advice is currently being sought to support the development of the Health and Wellbeing Partnership arrangements and the creation of a Place-based Rugby strategy. An initial workshop has been coordinated and delivered by LGA colleagues including Public Health, County and RBC colleagues towards a Place based approach.

Topic	Timescale	Notes
Digital Inclusion	To be agreed	The Digital Strategy is currently in development and alongside the Corporate Strategy outcomes 3 and 4, supported by the developing IT & Digital Services Strategy, Communications Strategy and Customer Access Strategy there is particular reference and associated actions within service action plans to tackle the issue of Digital Exclusion. There are already considerations being applied during service reviews to reduce digital exclusion, such as access to services in an agile environment, and Town Hall reception.