

**FURTHER RESPONSE – “PREVENTING YOUNG PEOPLE’S INVOLVEMENT IN DRUG DEALING” JOINT SCRUTINY INQUIRY**

**R1. Improve community engagement and consultation in terms of tackling drug-related crime by replicating the locality based partnership model and strengths based approach model implemented in Butetown, via a sequenced roll-out to other parts of Cardiff.**

In terms of progress to date, the Cardiff Community Safety Partnership (CSP) has achieved the following:

- A priority for the Cardiff Community Safety Partnership was the further development of the “Area Based Working” approach, following the Butetown Pilot.
- A review of the Butetown model was considered by the Community Safety Delivery Board on the 31<sup>st</sup> July. The Butetown Pilot group was reconvened 9<sup>th</sup> October 2019 and a new Aspirations sub-group convened 21<sup>st</sup> October 2019 as a way to continue the trial.
- Splott & Tremorfa were identified as a potential area to pilot further area based responses. Nominations for participants sought across partners and links made with the local Police Problem Solving Group.
- A multi-agency workshop aimed at canvassing partner views for extending the Butetown pilot into Splott & Tremorfa took place 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019.

Next Steps:

- Establish detailed Action Plan for the Butetown Area pilot area working group, aligning new and existing partner work streams while capturing and highlighting successful outputs (25<sup>th</sup> November 2019).
- Share initial Splott & Tremorfa workshop report highlighting key findings and recommendations for next steps and resource required (14<sup>th</sup> November 2019)
- Convene new Splott & Tremorfa area based group as an extension of the Butetown trial. Align governance with existing STAR Youth Action Group and Off Road Motorcycle Group (6<sup>th</sup> December 2019)

**R2 - Undertake a neighbourhood review towards formalising engagement with the community. New arrangements to include using the resources of PACT and to be a two-way communication tool between partners and the community**

Since the last update, the Community Safety Partnership and Public Services Board has agreed its approach to engagement, which is based around the following;

- **Community focused** - Engagement between services and residents is centred around the city’s hubs and existing networks.
- **Asset based** - Partner resources are brought together to address issues impacting the community the Hub serves (building on the assets in the community and supporting individuals and organisations to come together to

realise and develop their strengths). This will include the better integration of resources and include consideration of the PACT arrangements.

- **Bottom up and top down** - Issues are collated and escalated by community based coordinators (bottom up) and work is commissioned by the Community Safety Board based on what is added value (top down).

In operational terms, the Butetown model and rolling this out to Splott and Tremorfa, it has presented the Partnership with the opportunity to review its community engagement arrangements, based on the above principles. Further details of progress to date includes:

- Area Based Working workshop held at Community Safety Conference 19<sup>th</sup> September, which canvassed partner agencies on best approach for engaging with the community and how they would like to be involved.
- Complementing 19<sup>th</sup> September workshop, a Splott & Tremorfa Area Based Working workshop was held 1<sup>st</sup> October which also asked partners for views in operating community engagement and how they would like to be involved.

In relation to next steps:

- As a part of the Butetown pilot, establish a Citizen Engagement workshop with key nominated community members for developing a localised two way engagement mechanism. Output ideas to be further investigated for trialling locally and what resources would be required to expand across the city (14<sup>th</sup> December 2019).
- Both trial area based Working Groups (Butetown and Splott & Tremorfa) to arrange Community Reporting Workshop sessions with local police and relevant agencies, assessing existing citizen reporting methods for key concerns and conceiving alternative mechanisms where gaps are identified (21<sup>st</sup> December 2019).
- Launch campaign within Butetown and Splott & Tremorfa communities, encouraging resident reporting using Cardiff Council app and any other methods identified at Community Reporting workshops (31<sup>st</sup> January 2020).
- Assess results of 2019 Ask Cardiff Survey to further establish what this could mean for community engagement within the context of the Butetown/ Splott & Tremorfa pilot (28<sup>th</sup> February 2020).

In addition, South Wales Police have undertaken a review of its neighbourhood policing arrangements, and this includes the re-establishment of "Problem Solving Groups" (PSGs) and Quality of Life meetings. Currently, the Police and partners are discussing and agreeing the number of meetings across the city and the governance arrangements into the CSP arrangements.

The objective of PSG meetings is to streamline partnership working and to be an operational group to identify, tackle and resolve local issues to:

- Improve the quality of life of the community
- Reduce demand through problem solving
- Share good practice

Intelligence driving each PSG will be collected and collated across partners from the police analyst, partnership analyst and any escalation across community cohesion groups, PSBs and CSPs.

This is already gaining traction operationally. For example, the PSG operating in Splott reports into the Splott and Tremorfa Area Based Working Group, which in turn report to the Community Safety Delivery Board. Police colleagues managing the PSG sit on the Area Based Working Group to ensure that there is cross over between both groups.

**R3. The volunteer portal already in place to include attracting volunteers to act as community role models and ambassadors in order to advise young people on the dangers of drug-use and involvement with drug related crime. This voluntary scheme should be suitably funded and involve collaborative working with relevant groups and partners.**

To date, as part of the Butetown pilot, 10 volunteers have been recruited (6 x under 25). 1 x (under 25) is still volunteering, 2 (under 25) have returned to work, 2 x (under 25) no longer wanted to volunteer and 1 (under 25) is awaiting a DBS check.

Next steps are:

- Launch appeal for role models with a link to Butetown who are happy to take part in future employability and aspirational sessions facilitated by the Area Based Working group for young people (28<sup>th</sup> February 2020).
- In partnership with Cardiff & Vale Scouts, launch appeal for volunteers interested in developing and running new Scout groups within Butetown ward. If successful group to develop campaigns with similar volunteer groups (31<sup>st</sup> January 2020).
- Facilitate more community based staff to directly engage with local youngsters and establish the type of activities and volunteering opportunities that they would like to be involved with (28<sup>th</sup> February 2020).

**R4. For the Council, through its neighbourhood partnerships, explore the use of community facilities by the community – creating a pool of volunteers; offering support and training; and explore funding opportunities, to enable the community to have access to these buildings to run clubs/groups for young people, and give them a place to go outside of normal hours.**

Several Hubs already offer community groups the opportunity to open the facilities on an out of hours / weekend basis. In relation to work with young people across Cardiff, examples of this include:

### **St Mellons and Powerhouse**

- Street Safe Project (14-18 years)- 5 week project working with different partners on Knife crime, CSE (Child Sexual Exploitation), Gangs, Drugs, Relationships and how to report Crime anonymously. This was put on as an additional evening to Youth Club.
- Crimes and Consequences (11-16 years) in partnership with South Wales Fire Service. Workshops to raise awareness on different issues such as Arson, Riding without helmets and not wearing seatbelts, etc.
- Afterschool Club (9-11 years) – this is to try to alleviate ASB in and around the Hub.
- Cardiff Met Football outside in the Muga.
- Inner Strength (11-14 years) for female girls to tackle health and wellbeing, confidence, relationships and any other issues.
- Cardiff City (10-14 years)- Extra Time Project. This is an Afterschool Club to minimise ASB.
- Garden Project (10-14 years)- to tackle ASB in the Llanederyn area.
- Sports on the Muga (Powerhouse) to tackle ASB Followed by Cardiff City coach at St Teilo's High School (football).

### **Butetown, Star and Grangetown**

- In Butetown we are starting a parents workshop on awareness of drugs, gangs, grooming and county lines.
- Providing sessions on knife crime, grooming and drug dealing in Mount start primary school with YOT.
- Diversionary activities in the hubs over the school holidays and after school clubs. Late opening hours in Butetown pavilion.
- In star and St Mellons hubs you have the Cardiff City Foundation homework clubs to tackle
- Youth ASB issues.

- Fit and fed activities to tackle child poverty in the hubs with partner agencies street games, Taff and Asda. As well and senior library officers doing SHEP activities with the schools.

### **Ely and Caerau and Llandaff North**

- Ely and Caerau Youth shelter building project – in partnership with Youth Services, the project will involve young people building the shelter which can then be used as a safe meeting point with access to wifi and phone chargers - funding bid currently being completed.
- Ely and Caerau Girl's youth sessions in the Ely and Caerau Hub – focusing on emotional; wellbeing, and physical activities such as boxercise.
- Gaming club – community room at Ely and Caerau Hub
- Regular school holiday activities, this week in Ely and Caerau:
  - Breakfast Club
  - Slime Sessions
  - Play sessions
  - Halloween Film sessions
  - Halloween party with local PCSOs
  - Sport sessions with paly services and Cardiff City Foundation
- Ministry of Life youth sessions in Llandaff North Hub.

**R5. The Council and its partners review where drug related services are located and commit to thorough community engagement in areas of the city chosen for any proposed location for drug-related services such as needle exchanges. The size of the development should be clearly explained to residents as part of this engagement process.**

Partners within the Cardiff & Vale Area Planning Board continue to play an important role within CSP arrangements and reported progress on the substance misuse recommissioning process for regional substance misuse services in March and May 2019. Reps from the APB sit on the Community Safety Delivery Board.

The CSP recognised the concerns that the Scrutiny Inquiry highlighted, and continues to monitor issues that the potential links between drug related services and its impact on the community. To this end, the Council and partners have established a “Single Persons & Vulnerabilities Board”, chaired by Councillor Thorne to tackle a range of issues, but will include the community impact of services such as needle syringe programmes (NSP).

In addition, the APB are involved in the Butetown and Splott/Tremorfa Area Based Working Groups, so will be part of the work going forward – both with partners and the community.

**R6. The Council and partners undertake a review of current youth service provision. This should include assessing the function and developing a new model of service delivery that is more effective and fit for purpose. This should include an evaluation of the flexibility of the service and how it can meet the demand. The service could be more sessional based approach, linked up across a range of partners and be available outside of school hours and in the school holidays. There is a need to recognise the crucial role played by youth services in preventing young people’s involvement with drugs and drug related crime and that the Council should be mindful of this factor before future funding decisions are made regarding the service. If the remaining youth centres are to continue to offer young people a place to go, feel safe and be supported, budgets should be protected as much as possible, and considered as an integral part of the development of community based services and facilities.**

As per the original response to this recommendation, it needs to be stressed again that the Youth Service in Cardiff has a mixture of targeted support within schools and the communities as well as an open access offer within our communities.

The majority of core funding for the Youth Service in Cardiff is directed to community based open access provision. Targeted support provision is almost exclusively funded by external grants, and continues to support open access provision for young people to complement the directly delivered provision which continues to be offered through a reduced number of Council run venues, including Hubs – many examples of which are set out in Recommendation 4 above.

**R7. The Council and partners to undertake a review of all streams of “safeguarding” related activity across the City, with a view to developing a model for intervention and prevention for young people vulnerable to drug-related crime. There is a wide range of good practice already in place in relation to child sexual exploitation, FGM, radicalisation, sex work etc. and Members agreed that pooling the expertise and knowledge from these streams would establish the links with current work and assist in developing a specific model for young people caught up in drugs. This will also provide the tools required for engaging the parents/carers and families of these young people**

The CSP and Safeguarding Boards have, over the past several months, made strides to join up work-streams - this is continuing to develop and details of this will emerge over the coming months. There is a general agreement that, in terms of maximising this relationship effectively and avoid duplication that the Safeguarding Board will continue to work on individual safeguarding, but will link with the CSP in terms of “contextual” safeguarding issues.

It has been recognised across the CSP and Safeguarding Boards that there is a need to address the issue of “vulnerability” across the board. A recent audit undertaken in Children’s Services has highlighted some gaps in current arrangements and the need for an improved joined up approach to information sharing on young people linked with or involved with criminal exploitation/activity that also considers safeguarding for the young people’s parent(s) and siblings. This will be considered across the CSP and Safeguarding in the coming weeks.

In addition, at the recent Community Safety Conference at a workshop on Violence and Vulnerabilities highlighted that vulnerability is a key driver and root cause in a young person being involved in drug related crime.

In order to gain an insight into this issue, the CSP has commissioned the Community Safety Manager to coordinate a group to undertake a “problem profiling” exercise, pulling together representatives from the Council (including Education and Social Services), the Police, partnership analyst, probation and health. The aim of the exercise will be to gain an understanding of some of the very complex issues/circumstances that would lead to a person to end up within the criminal justice system. Board members felt that the need to work together (including sharing information) was critical. The first meeting of this Group will be on the 8<sup>th</sup> November, with outputs being reported to the CSP Board on the 14<sup>th</sup> November.

There is a project looking specifically at ‘Contextual safeguarding’, being led by Safeguarding that will be a key part of the work required around drug dealing in communities. This work will be reported into the CSP in due course.

**R8. The Council and partners develop a “Well-being Strategy” for young people based on the strengths based approach, and using initiatives such as “Goodies in Hoodies” that had had a positive impact on tackling negative perceptions of young people.**

Into-Work Service

Youth Employment Mentors within Into Work Advice Service are supporting young people aged 16-24 to get into work.

As a service, we do not have the tools to make young people stop using drugs if they are not ready to do so. However, if they are beginning to think about their future, and are at a point where they no longer want this to be their main focus on a daily basis and want to reduce or stop the habit so they can gain work or start training for a career; then we have often helped with this.

Many of the young people we support are using substances on a daily basis. This is often a significant barrier to their progress into sustainable employment. All Youth Employment Mentors have completed substance misuse training, and many have also completed further training in psychoactive substances and harm reduction techniques, with NewLink Wales. We recognise that understanding the drugs, their impact on the person and the reasons for their use are vital if we are going to empathise with young people and support them to overcome this barrier so they can progress with their lives.

Drug reduction is often written into the young people's action plans created when they begin receiving 1:1 mentor support with the Into Work Advice Service. Often, many industries young people want to go into, such as construction or rail track maintenance, require drugs tests so intensive support is provided on these instances. A case study has been attached to demonstrate this. There have been at least a dozen more young people supported in a similar way to this example.

Generally, young people who gain employment through our support, find that the bespoke training we fund for them can be a catalyst to reducing drug use. They appreciate the intensive support and respect the significant amount of funding they are receiving. This can be up to £2000 on an individual. Having someone invest in them gives them the intrinsic motivation to 'invest in themselves' by changing their lives and trying to take on a more positive lifestyle. This doesn't necessarily mean they no longer use drugs but it can mean that drugs are no longer their motivation, so they are being used much less frequently and they aren't having a negative impact on their life anymore.

Recommendation 4 also sets out examples of young people initiatives taking place across the hubs.

**R9. The Council and its partners undertake a major review of current arrangements in relation to options available to young people who find themselves excluded from school or on reduced timetables. Schools should play a central role in this review. The review should include drawing on existing examples of good practice already in place in some of Cardiff's schools. The review should include the identification and implementation of a number of preventative, diversionary methods to help steer young people towards a more positive life path. Sport, art, the opportunity to undertake apprenticeships and training, working within their community should all be considered to help achieve this. The review should also consider the development of a measurement to monitor and review school practice in relation to this area.**

As previously reported, the concerns expressed are recognised and highlighted in the Schools Annual Performance Report, considered by Cabinet and CYP Scrutiny



January 2019. Targets have been set to address these issues. The work is part of the Education Other than at School delivery plan with five priorities

1. Improve practice through the development of access panel and protocols for pupil placement
2. Improve commissioned provision through clearly defined aims and quality assurance.
3. Improve local authority provision
4. Improve processes via work with schools to retain pupils and to track pupil progress to reduce the risk of disengagement
5. Improve the curriculum offer for learners.

Progress on these targets are reported to the Children & YP Scrutiny Committee.

**R10. The Council and its partners ensure the development and implementation of a city-wide strategy on tackling drug-related crime to highlight in particular the dangers posed by the UK-wide increase in “County Lines” activity. Part of this strategy should include a hard-hitting communications campaign involving social media platforms and more traditional advertising measures such as the use of billboards. This should be coordinated with recommendations 15 and 16.**

The Community Safety Board agreed 4 key priorities for 2019/20, one of which is “County Lines and Exploitation of the Vulnerable”. The CSP has received regular updates on County Lines activity as well associated crime such as knife crime.

A new Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) has been recently been established, following a Home Office announcement that a total of £880k had been awarded to South Wales, the only policing area in Wales to receive funding to help tackle violent crime. The Violence Prevention Unit brings together South Wales Police, local authorities, health, community leaders and other key partners to tackle violent crime by understanding its root causes. The new unit will be responsible for identifying what is driving violent crime in South Wales to develop a co-ordinated response.

The CSP are currently undertaking a mapping exercise of the boards, networks and groups associated with this work. The aim of the exercise is to identify the breadth of work already taking place across the partnership, with the aim of aligning and streamlining these groups to make the system effective, avoid duplication and ensure that governance structures are in place. The results of the mapping exercise will be reported to the CSP Delivery Board on the 14<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

Developments in relation to the VRU are also reported into the CSP Boards at each meeting.

Communication and awareness raising options will be considered as part of the work of this CSP Priority; and will be based on good practice already in place, as well as campaigns adopted elsewhere.

**R11. The Safer Communities Board ensure that relevant third sector organisations are invited to operational meetings in order to achieve a wide ranging approach to tackling the issue of drug related crime. All parties should then be encouraged to promote each other's services and campaigns on their respective communication platforms in order to raise public awareness. Such action would give residents clearer indication of points of contact for reporting incidents of drug-related crime.**

Representatives from the Third Sector already sit on the Community Safety Delivery Board, and are involved in the Area Based Working Groups in Butetown and Splott/Tremorfa.

The Community Safety Manager has just launched a Community Safety Network with relevant partners, including those from the third sector. Key to the success of the network will be for members to share service updates; campaigns; key messages; best practice; information sharing; and training and funding opportunities. The network will also undertake focussed pieces of work to assist the work of the Boards in areas which may include developing improved communications and awareness raising platforms; and developing a signposting toolkit.

Outputs from the network will be fed back to the Community Safety Boards and will play a crucial part of the governance arrangements in relation to community safety. In addition, representatives of the third sector will play a crucial role in the work of the Task & Finish Groups, including the "County Lines and Exploitation" Group outlined in R10 above.

**R12. The Council and its partners develop and implement a system of community based operational meetings to include partners, third sector, parents and community members to share local data and intelligence in order identify hotspots, problem areas and shared solutions to the problem. This could include adopting a similar approach used by the CSE PING meetings.**

The development of the Area Based Working Groups in Butetown and Splott/Tremorfa is providing an opportunity to share data and intelligence. For example, at the first meeting of the Splott/Tremorfa Group, a crime intelligence report was presented to all partners in the Group, which included hotspots and levels of crime in the area. Building a trusting relationship across partners is critical in taking

work forward to bringing about shared solutions to the problem faced by that community.

In addition, an “off road biking” group has recently been established to look at the ongoing issues in relation to scrambler bikes, quads etc. This group share and discuss individuals and groups involved in this activity, and trust within this group has resulted in successes across Operation Red Mana in the City.

The Problem Profiling exercise highlighted in R7 above will require all partners to share and discuss individuals in the criminal justice system in order to track their story and identify vulnerabilities and interventions.

Further developments along the lines of the CSE PING meetings will form part of the ongoing developments around safeguarding as highlighted in R7 above.

**R13. The Council and partners adopt a similar model used by other work areas (such as CSE) to enable them to discuss individual young people in order to assess and address the individual’s needs – including issues raised in recommendations 7 and 9. This should also link with the early help new proposals and the young person’s gateway.**

Criminal exploitation as well as Child Sexual Exploitation are already subject to the same processes and procedures in regard to safeguarding. Work in this area continues to develop via the exploitation strategy and wider work taking place, as highlighted in R7 above.

**R14. Cabinet ensures that plans for a city-wide youth survey to ascertain attitudes to drugs and drug related crime are fully supported by Cardiff Council and that meaningful results are eventually achieved. Currently, it is proposed that a potential youth survey be commissioned by the Community Safety Partnership, in partnership with Youth Services. Members would wish to strongly encourage that this take place at the earliest possibility**

*Update to follow.*

**R15. A strategic, coordinated Communications Plan be developed with input from all partners. This should include the coordination of current materials that could be used as part of the programme. The programme should include mechanisms for delivering a large scale campaign across the City, and also more targeted awareness raising and training with recognised vulnerable groups. This should be developed in line with the Strategy recommended in R10 above, and should acknowledge the range of diverse communities across Cardiff. The Communications Plan should also develop targeted programmes for specific areas of Cardiff to address specific challenges faced by that area.**

It has been flagged by the CSP that a mapping of current materials available for training in schools and across professional groups is crucial in establishing a “where are we now” picture, prior to the development of a strategy and communications plan. The Council’s Cohesion Team are currently undertaking this exercise in relation to professional training streams available, and this will be expanded to schools based materials in due course.

Once this exercise is complete, the results will be considered by the CSP Boards and taken forward as appropriate.

**R16. A programme of campaigns for children and young people be developed by young people and current providers (for example, the St. Giles Trust), to include PSHE teaching materials, social media, development of apps, etc. The wording of all material should be very carefully considered and should include a strong message in informing young people of the consequences of being involved in drug dealing; recognising grooming; where they can go for more advice; and what options are available to them if they find themselves in trouble via drug-related activity. The coordination of budgets from other sources (Public Health Wales, Welsh Government etc) should also be explored as part of developing this campaign.**

See R15 above.

**R18. The Community Safety Board explore options of enforcement routes to tackle anti- social behaviour associated with drug dealing and problematic drug use in order to strengthen current arrangements and ease pressure on the Police. This could include a local, hybrid version of the use of Public Spaces Protection Orders.**

A range of options regarding enforcement routes is still being explored across the CSP.

**R19. The Council and partners link with relevant third sector providers to address the issue of “County Lines” activity in the City and links to other drug-related crime, such as knife crime. This should form part of both the strategic and operational elements of work going forward.**

As already stated in R10, work around County Lines and Exploitation of the Vulnerable is developing. As previously stated, critical to the work of this Group will be making links with other related crime, including knife crime.

R4 in this update showed the ongoing work between the third sector, young people, and the council.