

Democratic Services

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To: All Members of the Economic and Community Development Policy

Development and Scrutiny Panel

Councillor Robin Moss

Councillor Cherry Beath

Councillor Patrick Anketell-Jones

Councillor Brian Simmons

Councillor Andrew Furse

Councillor Geoff Ward

Councillor Dave Laming

Councillor David Martin

Chief Executive and other appropriate officers Press and Public

Dear Member

Economic and Community Development Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel: Thursday, 18th July, 2013

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Economic and Community Development Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel, to be held on Thursday, 18th July, 2013 at 1.00 pm in the Council Chamber - Guildhall, Bath.

The agenda is set out overleaf.

Yours sincerely

Jack Latkovic for Chief Executive

If you need to access this agenda or any of the supporting reports in an alternative accessible format please contact Democratic Services or the relevant report author whose details are listed at the end of each report.

This Agenda and all accompanying reports are printed on recycled paper

NOTES:

- 1. Inspection of Papers: Any person wishing to inspect minutes, reports, or a list of the background papers relating to any item on this Agenda should contact Jack Latkovic who is available by telephoning Bath 01225 394452 or by calling at the Riverside Offices Keynsham (during normal office hours).
- 2. Public Speaking at Meetings: The Council has a scheme to encourage the public to make their views known at meetings. They may make a statement relevant to what the meeting has power to do. They may also present a petition or a deputation on behalf of a group. Advance notice is required not less than two full working days before the meeting (this means that for meetings held on Wednesdays notice must be received in Democratic Services by 4.30pm the previous Friday)

The public may also ask a question to which a written answer will be given. Questions must be submitted in writing to Democratic Services at least two full working days in advance of the meeting (this means that for meetings held on Wednesdays, notice must be received in Democratic Services by 4.30pm the previous Friday). If an answer cannot be prepared in time for the meeting it will be sent out within five days afterwards. Further details of the scheme can be obtained by contacting Jack Latkovic as above.

3. Details of Decisions taken at this meeting can be found in the minutes which will be published as soon as possible after the meeting, and also circulated with the agenda for the next meeting. In the meantime details can be obtained by contacting Jack Latkovic as above.

Appendices to reports are available for inspection as follows:-

Public Access points - Riverside - Keynsham, Guildhall - Bath, Hollies - Midsomer Norton, and Bath Central, Keynsham and Midsomer Norton public libraries.

For Councillors and Officers papers may be inspected via Political Group Research Assistants and Group Rooms/Members' Rooms.

- **4. Attendance Register:** Members should sign the Register which will be circulated at the meeting.
- **5.** THE APPENDED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ARE IDENTIFIED BY AGENDA ITEM NUMBER.
- 6. Emergency Evacuation Procedure

When the continuous alarm sounds, you must evacuate the building by one of the designated exits and proceed to the named assembly point. The designated exits are sign-posted.

Arrangements are in place for the safe evacuation of disabled people.

Economic and Community Development Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel - Thursday, 18th July, 2013

at 1.00 pm in the Council Chamber - Guildhall, Bath

AGENDA

- WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
- 2. EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Democratic Services Officer will draw attention to the emergency evacuation procedure as set out under Note 6.

- 3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS
- 4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

At this point in the meeting declarations of interest are received from Members in any of the agenda items under consideration at the meeting. Members are asked to indicate:

- (a) The agenda item number in which they have an interest to declare.
- (b) The nature of their interest.
- (c) Whether their interest is a disclosable pecuniary interest <u>or</u> an other interest, (as defined in Part 2, A and B of the Code of Conduct and Rules for Registration of Interests)

Any Member who needs to clarify any matters relating to the declaration of interests is recommended to seek advice from the Council's Monitoring Officer before the meeting to expedite dealing with the item during the meeting.

- TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIRMAN
- 6. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC OR COUNCILLORS TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS, STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THIS MEETING

At the time of publication no notifications had been received.

7. MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 23RD MAY 2013 (Pages 5 - 16)

To confirm the minutes of the above meeting as a correct record.

8. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER (45 MINUTES) (Pages 17 - 34)

The Panel are asked to consider the report from Sue Mountstevens (Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner).

The Panel and the public will be invited to an open question and answer session after the introduction of the annual report.

9. COMMUNITY SAFETY PLAN: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE PROFILE (30 MINUTES) (Pages 35 - 64)

The report illustrates the extent and nature of domestic violence and abuse within Bath and North East Somerset. It sets out the main aims of the Domestic Violence and Abuse Profile and what this means for Bath and North East Somerset Council and the Community Safety Partnership.

The Panel will receive a presentation on the 2012-2013 Domestic Violence and Abuse Profile, involving a clear analysis of data assembled from various agencies and key services. There will also be an opportunity to hear about the work of the Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs), working in and with our communities to support victims and families.

The Panel will be invited to an open question and answer session at the end of the presentation.

10. PANEL WORKPLAN (Pages 65 - 68)

This report presents the latest workplan for the Panel (Appendix 1).

The Committee Administrator for this meeting is Jack Latkovic who can be contacted on 01225 394452.

BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL

Thursday, 23rd May, 2013

Present:- Councillors Robin Moss (Chair), Cherry Beath (Vice-Chair), Patrick Anketell-Jones, Brian Simmons, Dave Laming and Geoff Ward

1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Democratic Services Officer drew attention to the emergency evacuation procedure.

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Councillor Andrew Furse had sent his apology to the Panel.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Robin Moss declared an 'other' interest in item 9 on the agenda (Connecting Communities) as he is the Chairman of the Big Local for Radstock and Westfield.

Councillor Dave Laming declared an 'other' interest in item 12 on the agenda (River Corridor Report – Cabinet Member response) as he is a non-voting member of the River Corridor Trust.

5 TO ANNOUNCE ANY URGENT BUSINESS AGREED BY THE CHAIRMAN

There was none.

The Chairman informed the Panel that the agenda item 'Apprenticeships, Work Placements, Work Experience, Internships and Volunteering' will be heard straight after agenda item 7 (Minutes of the last meeting).

The Chairman also informed the Panel that there will be an additional agenda item, which is Cabinet Member update. Cabinet Member update will be heard straight after 'Apprenticeships, Work Placements, Work Experience, Internships and Volunteering' agenda item.

6 ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC OR COUNCILLORS - TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS, STATEMENTS, PETITIONS OR QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OF THIS MEETING

The Chairman invited Pamela Galloway (Secretary of the Warm Water Inclusive Swimming and Exercise – WWISE) to address the Panel with her statement.

Pamela Galloway explained that she was speaking on behalf of B&NES residents who, because of disability or short and/or long term health conditions, need access to warm water pools to exercise and swim so they can help, and/or maintain their health and fitness.

Pamela Galloway described the needs of those residents and the necessity for the adequate facilities in local leisure centres, such as the appropriate changing facilities and water temperature between 31°C-33°C.

A full copy of the statement from Pamela Galloway is available on the Minute Book in Democratic Services.

The Chairman invited Susan Charles (Honorary Chair of the Access BANES Group) to address the Panel with her statement.

Susan Charles explained that she was speaking on behalf of the Access BANES Group with the request for a support that the disabled access to the rear of Keynsham Leisure Centre be reinstated.

Susan Charles explained to the Panel that the original rear access route through Keynsham Park was created and paid for by the Keynsham Lions club back in the 1970s though the same access route was removed in 2007 due to health and safety reasons but without an equivalent alternative.

The Panel confirmed that they received all the correspondence from Susan Charles re: Disabled parking and access at Keynsham Leisure Centre.

All correspondence submitted to the Panel by Susan Charles is available on the Minute Book in Democratic Services.

The Panel debated the matter and felt that the issues raised by Pamela Galloway and Susan Charles should be taken on board, and discussed with the relevant officers and Cabinet Members, when the Leisure Strategy is on Panel's agenda.

7 MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 14TH MARCH 2013

The Panel confirmed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true record and they were duly signed by the Chairman.

8 APPRENTICESHIPS, WORK PLACEMENTS, WORK EXPERIENCE, INTERNSHIPS AND VOLUNTEERING (15 MINUTES)

The Chairman invited Paul Gaunt (Employment and Skills Officer) to give the presentation.

Paul Gaunt gave a presentation where he highlighted the following points:

- Timeline
- Policy Statement
- Recommendations
- The Consultation
- The feedback
- Next steps

A full copy of the presentation from Paul Gaunt is available on the Minute Book in Democratic Services.

The Panel made the following points:

The Chairman commented that, in the report, there is a contradiction between internships, volunteering and unpaid work placements. There is also a need to focus on those areas in BANES that have highest levels of deprivation and those with high unemployment. The Chairman said that there appears to be a gap within the information in the report - if somebody is unemployed then the discussions with the Job Centre Plus should take place. What should not happen is for people to believe that those working local, or national, government, on voluntary basis, are not seeking the employment. The other danger is for those who were out of work due to illness or disability, and looking to get back into work, their status could be jeopardised because of those issues. Therefore, there is need for dialogue with the Job Centre Plus and Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) so people are not disadvantaged in the process.

Paul Gaunt replied that the Council is already working with the DWP though comments made by the Chairman will be taken on board.

Some Members of the Panel suggested that some innovative employment schemes in Bath train people recommended from Job Centres in Bristol and Bath, and at the end of the training sessions those people gain employment.

Members of the Panel commented that this is the vital area to help youngsters to get on the job ladder. Members of the Panel asked what is stopping businesses engaging apprentices in BANES.

Paul Gaunt replied that the approach on internships and apprenticeships is not consistent across the area. The main purpose of the policy is to capture why there is an inconsistent approach and make coordinated approach which should be followed by all Council services.

The Vice-Chair said that she was pleased with the commitment from the Council to set consistent approach to identify opportunities for apprenticeships, work experience and volunteering. This will stop silo working between departments. The Vice-Chair said that she would look forward to hear more on this subject.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the report and for the officers to take on board feedback from the Panel.

9 CABINET MEMBER UPDATE (10 MINUTES)

The Chairman invited Councillor Ben Stevens (Cabinet Member for Sustainable Development) to give an update to the Panel (attached as Appendix 1 to these minutes).

The Panel made the following points:

The Panel welcomed the update from Councillor Stevens. Some Panel Members felt that they should receive regular updates on the Economic Development, which was welcomed by Councillor Stevens.

The Panel commented that the Economic Development is one of the main issues for Bath and asked what efforts Councillor Stevens will make in order to engage fully with the business community of Bath. Some Members asked if the wrong type of trade is coming more and more to Bath, in particular high street coffee shops and restaurants, and whether Councillor Stevens feels that this should continue.

Councillor Stevens agreed that the Economic development is very important for Bath. Councillor Stevens said that he will continue to engage business community of Bath in the economic development. Councillor Stevens reminded the Panel that he was Council Champion for small businesses for the last two years and well linked with the small business community. Councillor Stevens said that the Council is well aware of the value that high street brands bring to the area though the Council will be also committed to engage small and independent businesses.

The Chairman commented that he would hope to see more discussion on the Tourism Levy. The Chairman also said that in the interest of Bath to have a tourism strategy to encourage people to stay longer, 2-4 days rather than 2-4 hours.

The Panel thanked Councillor Ben Stevens for an update.

Appendix 1

10 YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE (15 MINUTES)

The Chairman invited Sally Churchyard (11–19 Outcomes Service Manager) to give the presentation to the Panel.

Sally Churchyard gave a presentation where she highlighted the following points:

- Statutory Framework Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012
- Who are service users

- Reduce rate of first time entrants 3 year data
- Reduce rate of re-offending 3 year data
- Reduce the rate of custody 3 year data
- Youth Justice Plan

A full copy of the presentation from Sally Churchyard is available on the Minute Book in Democratic Services.

The Panel made the following points:

The Panel welcomed the presentation, in particular the information that crime figures were going down and asked why the figures went down over 3 years.

Sally Churchyard replied that crime rate figures were going down tremendously and there is a lot of speculation why that is happening though there is no real evidence yet. Sally Churchyard said that one of the speculations was due to changes in young people's behaviour, in particular spending more time on internet, social media, etc.

The Panel asked how BANES compare with the other areas in terms of young offenders figures and what prevention techniques are used to stop young people committing the offence.

Sally Churchyard replied that the data is reported nationally. BANES figures are better than national average. In terms of the neighbouring areas – BANES is better in 'Reduce rate of re-offending' and 'Reduce the rate of custody' whilst 'Reduce rate of first time entrants' is slightly proportionally higher. Sally Churchyard also said that the service is keen to work with partners in schools, colleges and with the Police and co-fund new projects in order to prevent young people committing a crime.

The Panel commented that BANES population is smaller than Bristol or Wiltshire so statistics could be quite high when counted proportionally to population figures

Some Members of the Panel suggested that one way of preventing young people committing an offence is to create centres of excellence for youth in areas such as sport, science, art, culture, etc. Sally Churchyard welcomed the suggestion from the Panel.

The Vice-Chair asked about the impact of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) appointment on young people.

Sally Churchyard replied that her service work quite close with the PCC, Sue Mountstevens. The PCC showed a real commitment to work with young people even though it is not on her list of main priorities.

The Panel asked about the work with parents.

Sally Churchyard replied that parents are some of the key people to work with. The service makes an assessment on the needs that families and parents have, and the service is also co-ordinating accredited parent programme.

The Panel asked how the service copes with the reduction in funding.

Sally Churchyard replied that there was a significant reduction in funding and because of that the service is much smaller than it used to be. Nevertheless, there is still the capacity to increase preventative work and the service is working closely with the Connecting Families project. Sally Churchyard also said that it is difficult to understand, or project, what are the crime trends, though the level of offending in BANES are really low.

The Chairman thanked Sally Churchyard for her presentation.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the presentation and report.

11 'CONNECTING COMMUNITIES' UPDATE(30 MINUTES)

The Chairman invited David Trethewey (Divisional Director – Policy and Partnership) and Andy Thomas (Group Manager – Partnership Delivery) to introduce the item.

The Panel made the following comments:

The Chairman commented that 4.2 (2) of the report should read 'A quicker response from the Council'. The Chairman also asked what was the open tender process for the Re:generate Community Organised scheme, what track record and what monitoring is in place and whether or not they are reluctant to share their data. The Chairman also highlighted page 26 of the report, Asset Transfer, and commented that he would like to see some kind of register of Asset Transfer applications so everyone can see what applications have been made and which of those were successful (and under what criteria).

The Chairman also commented that page 31 of the report is looking at cluster arrangements and suggested that it would be useful having cross boundary work (i.e. work with partnership organisations in neighbouring authorities).

The Chairman said that on the page 38 there was no overarching co-ordinated 3rd sector body to look into investment applications, much funding issues and opportunities.

David Trethewey responded that officer thought long and hard where to put the lines for clusters. There is no coherent approach between agencies across BANES so this will try to recreate governance structure in the area and this will require some time. These clusters will be supported through a toolkit of approaches, information and opportunities for local projects and joint working. David Trethewey added that this will not stop joint work with organisations from other authorities.

David Trethewey suggested that the Panel might want to look at the work that is going in the cluster around the activities that they are responsible for. A key part of the cluster is to appoint a senior officer as contact point for the particular cluster.

David Trethewey welcomed a suggestion from the Chairman regarding the register of Asset Transfer applications.

David Trethewey said that BANES is interesting area in terms of voluntary community sector support. The area is not as big as Bristol or Wiltshire in terms of the capacity which does have an impact on how they, voluntary sector, access available funds. David Trethewey commented that there is a range of support agencies available and suggested that the Panel could have a separate item on the agenda on that subject.

Peter Duppa-Miller (Secretary of the BANES Local Councils Association) welcomed the initiative. Peter Duppa-Miller also said that communities in Bath could easier connect with each other whilst communities in North East Somerset not so due to considerable larger distance between communities with inadequate public transport. The Council should also consider interaction, and connection, between the PACT, existing Parish Cluster Groups and Connecting Communities. The report also looks to enhance the advocacy of the elected local Councillors.

The Panel commented that they would wish to have clear understanding on how 'hard to reach' communities are included in this initiative. Some Panel Members suggested that the Panel could get an update on how the PACT is working now and also a feedback on the Re:generate Community Organised scheme, as mentioned by the Chairman.

The Panel also commented that the Council should use the intelligence from local people and Ward Councillors in terms of the communities in their area. The Panel also suggested that the Council should use more social media to connect with local people.

Some Panel Members felt that the communities need to connect to the river as river connects everyone.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the report and for the officers to take on board comments made by the Panel.

12 POST-MIDNIGHT ECONOMY AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO OVERALL ECONOMY (20 MINUTES)

The Chairman invited Andrew Cooper (Bath City Centre Manager) to introduce this item.

The Chairman also invited Inspector Steve Mildren to give the presentation on Night Time Economy crime figures.

The presentation gave the following information:

- Night Time Economy (NTE) crime diagram
- NTE Detected Crime diagram
- Violence in the NTE
- Anti-Social Behaviour Call logs

A full copy of the presentation is available on the Minute Book in Democratic Services.

The Panel made the following comments:

Members of the Panel welcomed the work of the Business Improvement District, Community Safety and the Police in lowering the number of Anti-Social Behaviour incidents. Some Panel Members volunteered to come out with officers on Friday and Saturday night to see how different schemes work across the city.

Members of the Panel were informed that the funding for the Business Improvement District was agreed for another 5 years. The Night Time Economy crime figures presented to the panel were not domestic figures, only related to the crime on the street.

The officers informed the Panel that partnership work between the Business Improvement District, Community Safety and the Police will continue in order to promote Bath as a safe city and attract day and night time economy.

It was **RESOLVED** to note presentations from Andrew Cooper and Inspector Steve Mildren.

13 RIVER CORRIDOR REPORT - CABINET MEMBER RESPONSE (15 MINUTES)

The Chairman said that the statement from Jan Brown had been circulated to the Panel and will be forwarded to Councillor Ben Stevens for his consideration.

The Chairman invited Councillor Stevens to take the Panel through the response as printed.

The Panel made the following points:

Councillor Cherry Beath, Vice Chair of the Panel and previous Cabinet Member for Sustainable Development, said that the River Strategy is on its way and will be incorporated into the wider regeneration plans for the Bath Enterprise Area, and Keynsham. Any future development and regeneration with respect to the river will need to fit within available resources. Councillor Beath also added that the Council cannot form the River Corridor Trust, as the Trust should be independent, though the Council is here to support those who would want to form a Trust.

Councillor Dave Laming made a plea to the Cabinet, via Councillor Stevens, to look for a venue which would be ideal as River Corridor Trust's headquarters. Councillor Stevens said that he will take that request on board.

The Chairman thanked everyone who took part in the review and also thanked the Cabinet Member/s (past and present) for their response to recommendations made in the report.

It was **RESOLVED** to note the response.

14 **WORKPLAN**

It was **RESOLVED** to note the workplan with the following additions:

- Magistrates (date to be confirmed)
- Empty shops (date to be confirmed)

The Chairman also informed Panel Members that they could always contact him, or the Vice Chair, if they have any suggestions for the workplan.

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Date Confirmed and Signed	
Chair(person)	
The meeting ended at 3.50 p	om

Prepared by Democratic Services

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Cabinet Member Update

Cllr Ben Stevens – Cabinet Member for Sustainable Development

Obviously I only took the position over from the AGM last Thursday. Since then I have been getting myself up to date with the portfolio, meeting with the Strategic Director and Divisional Directors as well as external organisations to ensure I am on top of things.

Economic Development

- The Co-Working Hub is on track to be opened in July as planned, and is starting to take shape. The primary concern at the moment is how to deal with oversubscription, rather than lack of interest.
- A number of our key development sites are finally being brought forward to ensure a strong economy here in Bath and North East Somerset.
- o Many of these sites are on the river and we're working to ensure that the river is central to our future plans.

Heritage

- o Our heritage assets continue to go from strength to strength; The Roman Baths has won a Silver Tourism Excellence award.
- The <u>Heritage Services Business Plan 2013-2018</u> has been approved by Cabinet;
- o Officers are working on the revised Room Hire Strategy which will be brought forward for adoption in the autumn;
- Charging for the large temporary exhibition gallery at the Victoria Art Gallery was introduced in April; performance is being monitored and will be reviewed in Q3;
- o 23rd May marks the 50th anniversary of the Fashion Museum (then the Museum of Costume) opening in Bath; it is being celebrated with the exhibition '50 Fabulous Frocks';

Culture

- In July a pot of money provided by Art Council England and Visit England will become available, the Council is supporting a joint bid from Bath Tourism Plus and Bath Festivals.
- Plans for the Tourism Levy are going to start being worked up shortly, and as promised this panel will receive an update once there is one.
- o The Arts Development Strategy is currently out for consultation with arts groups.

I thought it might be useful for me to let you know my priorities for the next 2 years.

- Ensuring the river is properly valued
- Refreshing the economic strategy to take account of the changes since it was written (global recession, localism, core strategy etc)
- Bringing forward development sites
- Rationalise the marketing of B&NES to maximise the benefit
- Enhance the cultural offer across B&NES, encouraging cultural tourism

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

2012/13

Published June 2013

FOREWORD

2012/13 was a landmark year for crime and policing nationally, as a new governance framework brought about by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 came into fruition.

This included the introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners in November 2012 who were tasked to improve the local accountability and effectiveness of the police, drive improvements in the criminal justice system and put the voice of residents and victims of crime at the heart of Police and Criminal Justice services.

This is a challenging agenda, particularly in light of the ongoing reductions in public sector funding that are affecting all of our statutory partners and the changing profile of need across communities, victims and perpetrators of crime and anti-social behaviour.

My first six months in office have been a steep learning curve and I have focused my time on listening to local communities and organisations about what is important to them and the issues they face. This has informed the development of my first Police and Crime Plan, in which I set strategic priorities to tackle and reduce ASB, domestic and sexual violence and burglary, and put the voice of victims at the heart of the criminal justice system. In addition, to these priorities, local consultation identified road safety and relationships with the police as issues that are important to residents, and I have highlighted these issues as specific areas for improvement.

The Police and Crime Plan sets my aspiration to become a top performing force by 2017 across all of my priority areas. We have begun the year with an encouragingly strong baseline and Avon and Somerset saw a further reduction in total recorded crime of 14% in 2012/13 and a further increase in the overall detection rate to 36.5% - the highest ever recorded locally.

These achievements are a testament to the commitment and dedication of local officers, staff, partners and colleagues, not least our former Chief Constable, Colin Port, and the outgoing Police Authority who have worked tirelessly over recent years to make the residents of Avon and Somerset safer and feel safer. For this, I extend my sincerest gratitude to you all.

As we move into 2013/14 and delivering the aspirations of the Police and Crime Plan, I welcome our new Chief Constable Nick Gargan, whom I appointed to lead policing across Avon and Somerset in March 2013. Together we are planning for the changes and challenges that ongoing financial constraints will bring in an effort to ensure that the residents of Avon and Somerset continue to receive the effective, visible and accessible service they deserve.

I have also begun to forge strong relationships with local authorities, the Police and Crime Panel, voluntary sector organisations and business communities across Avon and Somerset, particularly in preparing for my new responsibilities for commissioning victim services and in establishing a Business Crime Forum. I look forward to further strengthening these relationships as we work to improve local services and tackle and reduce crime in a more joined up way.

I issued a number of Community Safety, Youth Offending and Substance Misuse and Drug Intervention grants in April and May 2013 and launched a Community Action Fund for small community grants. I will be monitoring the delivery of these services, projects and initiatives throughout 2013/14, which are all contributing towards achieving my strategic priorities.

Since taking office in November 2012, I have met many dedicated and truly inspiring people who are involved in vitally important work within our police force area. I have been encouraged by the ideas and innovation you have shared and I want to continue to work with you to make a real difference for the people of Avon and Somerset.

Sue Mountstevens Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 places a duty on Police and Crime Commissioners to produce an annual report setting out the progress that has been made in the previous financial year in meeting the police and crime objectives. This annual report is an important milestone in our strategic planning cycle and provides feedback to the Police and Crime Panel, public and other stakeholders on how the police and crime objectives are being delivered.
- 1.2 This report details progress made during the statutory review period of 15th November 2012 to 31st March 2013. Recognising, however, the March 2013 publication date for the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan, this report also includes progress made up to 15th May 2013, marking the Commissioner's first six months in office. Future annual reports will be based on the financial year April to March and issued in May each year in line with the budget book and annual governance statement.

2. STATUTORY FUNCTIONS

2.1 The Police and Crime Commissioner has a legal duty to decide the police budget, allocating assets and funds to the Chief Constable and setting the council tax precept for the Avon and Somerset area under section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

The Commissioner maintained her election pledge to freeze the council tax precept at £168 for an average band D property in 2013/14 based on extensive public feedback during her campaign. This was the same level as for 2011/12 and 2012/13 and resulted in the award of a Government grant equivalent to 1% council tax increase each year. The precept level in Avon and Somerset is in line with the average for all policing areas across England. Further details of the financial outturn for 2012/13 can be found in the annual budget book at:-http://www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk/Openness/How-we-spend-your-money.aspx

2.2 The Police and Crime Commissioner has responsibility for the removal and appointment of the Chief Constable.

Following the resignation of Colin Port in December 2012, the Commissioner appointed Nick Gargan as the area's Chief Constable on 14th January 2013. Following an intensive two day selection process, Nick Gargan began his appointment on 4 March 2013.

2.3 The Police and Crime Commissioner has a statutory duty to set the strategic direction and objectives of Avon and Somerset Constabulary through the Police and Crime Plan.

The Commissioner issued her statutory plan in March 2013, alongside six district level non-statutory plans for each of the area's policing districts. The plan sets out the commissioner's strategic priorities for tackling and reducing ASB, domestic and sexual violence and burglary and putting victims at the heart of the criminal justice system. The plan also included a series of objectives against which progress will be monitored and reported. Further details of progress made in these areas can be found in section 3. The full Police and Crime Plan for Avon and Somerset can be found at:- http://www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk/Your-PCC/Police-and-Crime-Plan.aspx

2.4 The Police and Crime Commissioner has a duty to work in partnership with other statutory agencies to reduce crime and disorder.

The 2013-17 Police and Crime Plan set out the Commissioner's commitment to working in partnership with communities and statutory and non-statutory agencies to deliver shared outcomes, particularly in recognition of the Commissioner's broader role with regard to Community Safety and the wider Criminal Justice System.

The Commissioner has held a series of introductory meetings with Chairs and lead officers of the new Health & Wellbeing Boards in addition to discussions with local Clinical Commissioning

Groups. There is a strong shared commitment to improving outcomes across a number of key agendas, which include mental health, drugs and alcohol, victims and domestic violence. The Commissioner is appointing an officer to lead this area of business in along with responsibilities in relation to young people. Health and Wellbeing Boards have also been integrated into the Commissioner's strategic planning arrangements for 2013/14.

The Commissioner announced the creation of a new Business Crime Forum that she will facilitate and chair. This Forum is the result of wide consultation with the Constabulary, businesses and business groups and will enable business leaders to meet with the Commissioner and Chief Constable. Scoping and round table discussions have already proved productive and the Commissioner has received substantial support and interest from the business community. The Constabulary has worked to develop a consistent definition and measure of business crime to assist the forum in improving our understanding of the issue and track performance. The Business Crime Forum also aims to:-

- Listen to business concerns, share intelligence and help business to help themselves
- Improve the dialogue and coordination of activity between business leaders and police
- Share information on emerging threats, risks and trends
- Discuss how business can assist the police prevent and reduce crime
- Establish and share best practice

2.5 Police and Crime Grants and Commissioning – 2012/13

In 2012/13, the Police Authority / OPCC issued grants totalling £141,141 to the five Youth Offending Teams in Avon and Somerset. The funding supported the delivery of activities to reduce first time entrants into the criminal justice system and improve substance misuse outcomes for young people.

The number of first time entrants (FTE) into the youth justice system fell by over 30% in 2013/13 to 908 young people. This continues the long term year downward trend and further narrows the gap between Avon and Somerset and regional and national average. FTE rates are falling across all districts, supported by changes in the way minor offending is dealt with via alternative disposals and restorative justice approaches. Bristol (-45%) and Somerset (-32%) have achieved the largest reductions, while rates in North Somerset have remained relatively static in 2012/13, following above average reductions in 2011/12.

85.6% of those completing drug treatment journeys were successful in 2012/13, exceeding the target for the year of 85%. This target was exceeded in BaNES (100%) and South Gloucestershire (87%), and narrowly missed in Bristol and North Somerset (83%). Planned / successful completions in Somerset were notably lower at 65%, with providers feeling that the rural nature of the County, changes to the Commissioning of the European Social Fund and the economic climate have impacted negatively upon this group of vulnerable young people. Further information can be found in Annex 1.

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner made preparations for new commissioning arrangements in April 2013. In addition to the Youth Offending and Substance Misuse Grant, the Commissioner received Home Office grant funding for the commissioning of Community Safety, Drug Intervention and youth diversionary activity totalling £2.4m. This correlated to a 12% reduction in funding from various Home Office funding streams from the previous year.

The OPCC has engaged with partners to develop a process for awarding grants based on the following principles:-

- Retaining continuity of key local activities where possible in this first transition year
- Funding projects and outcomes rather than individual posts
- · Requiring clear business plans for funds
- Aligning funding to the Commissioner's priorities
- Allocating funding fairly across the Force area

Performance reporting and monitoring arrangements have been developed and will be made available on the Commissioner's website on a quarterly basis. The details of grant allocations made for 2013/14 can be found in Annex 2.

3. POLICE AND CRIME PRIORITIES

"In my first six months in office, I have focussed my time on listening to and learning from local people about the issues that are important to them and putting in place infrastructure that will enable me to deliver my police and crime plan"

This section details progress made in delivering the Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan Priorities and Objectives during April and May 2013.

3.1 Anti-social Behaviour

The Police and Crime Plan set objectives to improve awareness and access to the services available for victims of ASB, having been identified as an issue via public consultation. The Commissioner has appointed a Champion to lead this area of business which includes oversight of partnership delivery plans for 2014/15. The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Constabulary have also designed a general population survey that will be used to improve our understanding of the issue and response to aspects of perception, fear and experience of ASB.

The Commissioner has issued community safety grants in each policing district area that will contribute to the reduction of ASB and perceptions of ASB across the force area. These include youth diversion schemes, ASB Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) processes and targeted initiatives in the night time economy. Details of these projects can be found in Annex 1, and delivery outcomes relating to each project will be published on the Commissioner's website on a quarterly basis.

3.2 Domestic and Sexual Violence

The Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan sets out her commitment to improving reporting, understanding and awareness of domestic and sexual violence, improving the effectiveness of Public Protection Teams and local domestic violence services, and strengthening the focus on perpetrators of violence.

The Commissioner centrally commissioned the Independent Sexual Violence Advisor (ISVA) services in April 2013 in order to provide continuity and stability to this important service. A multi-agency exit survey has also been developed in order to improve our understanding of the victim experience and drive further improvements in this service.

The Commissioner has appointed a Champion to lead this area of business, which includes oversight of partnership delivery plans and representation on relevant partnership boards. The Commissioner is represented on the Avon and Somerset Violence Against Women and Children Strategy Group, the SARC Strategic Commissioning Board and a range of other internal Constabulary meetings relating to this area.

The Commissioner has issued community safety grants in each policing district area that will contribute towards tackling Domestic and Sexual Violence in Avon and Somerset. These include a domestic violence empowerment group, perpetrator scheme, research in to the prevalence of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), child exploitation MARAC process and domestic and sexual violence awareness raising campaigns. Details of these projects can be found in Annex 1, and delivery outcomes relating to each project will be published quarterly on the Commissioner's website.

3.3 Reducing Burglary

The Commissioner set the stretching ambition to become a top ten performing force nationally in terms of reducing and detecting burglary offences. In doing so, the Commissioner set Police and Crime objectives to tackle burglary hotspot locations, improve integrated offender management and criminal justice outcomes and improve the access to information available to

the public. The Commissioner has been encouraged by the Constabulary's initial response, which has included a review of the way in which serious acquisitive crime processes are managed and co-ordinated in order to improve outcomes for the public.

The Commissioner has engaged extensively with local communities to understand their concerns, including attendance and engagement at a number of Neighbourhood Watch and PACT meetings. The OPCC has also worked with the Constabulary to develop a police and crime survey that will provide a more robust measure of fear, perception and experience of crime that will be used to inform our strategic and operational responses.

The Commissioner has appointed a Victims Champion to lead this area of business which includes oversight of the Constabulary's response to burglary and serious acquisitive crime more generally through oversight of the IMPACT programme and SAC Delivery Plan. The Commissioner issued grant funding to support the Drug Intervention Programme across Avon and Somerset in March 2013 and will monitor and publish delivery outcomes on a quarterly basis throughout 2013/14.

The Commissioner has also issued community safety grants in each policing district area that will contribute towards reducing burglary in Avon and Somerset. These include an alley gating scheme, crime prevention and youth diversion and substance misuse projects. Details of these projects can be found in Annex 1, and delivery outcomes relating to each project will be published on the Commissioner's website on a quarterly basis.

3.4 Victim Services

The Commissioner set out her commitment to improving victim care, particularly through improving our understanding of victim's experience supporting the Integrated Victim Service pilot via the Police and Crime Plan in March 2013.

The Commissioner has appointed a Victims Champion to lead this area of business and make preparations for the commissioning of victim services in 2014/15. This has included facilitating a Victims' Roundtable event on 17 May 2013 to enable early discussion with key stakeholders and initiating a project to map the victim services landscape with support from the University of the West of England. The Commissioner has also formally responded to Ministry of Justice consultation on the Victim's Code of Practice, highlighting potential risks in proposed changes to referral arrangements.

The Commissioner has issued community safety grants in each policing district area that will contribute towards improving victim care across Avon and Somerset, in addition to those relating specifically to ASB, domestic and sexual violence and burglary. These include Neighbourhood Justice Panels and a range of hate crime services. Details of these projects can be found in Annex 1, and delivery outcomes relating to each project will be published on the Commissioner's website on a quarterly basis.

3.5 Road Safety

Road safety was identified as an additional priority issue for residents across Avon and Somerset as a result of extensive local consultation. As the nature of the issue differs from area to area, the priority was incorporated into district level police and crime plans. A review of the effectiveness of fixed speed and red light cameras, mobile cameras and speed awareness courses was commissioned in April 2013, alongside a review of potential costs and revenues. The findings will be used to inform commissioning decisions during the 2013/14 year.

"I aim to ensure that people have real and practical opportunities to shape their policing and community safety services and I want to build upon the energy and innovation I have seen"

- 4.1 The Commissioner received 2,725 individual contacts from members of the public between November 2012 and May 2013, which compares to 174 received by the Police Authority during the same period in 2011/12. This has been due, in part, to an increased profile of the role, a single point of focus for the public and an increased level of community engagement.
- 4.2 The Commissioner committed to spending at least one day a week engaging with local communities to better understand their local needs. This programme commenced 23rd November 2012, with a particular focus on hearing from underrepresented groups and victims of a range of crime types. The programme has also enabled meaningful engagement with a wide range of voluntary and community groups and organisations which informed development of the Commissioner's Police and Crime objectives. An overview of the Commissioner's engagement schedule to May 2013 can be found in Annex 2
- 4.3 The OPCC consulted more specifically on the priorities of the police and crime plan between December 2012 and March 2013 which resulted in commitments to improve visibility and accessibility of police services, road safety and relationships between communities and the police. Consultation mechanisms included:-
 - a questionnaire available online, by telephone, in hard copy and via social media which received responses from 1,179 people, including over 600 victims of crime
 - consultation events in each policing district and every local authority area
 - other dedicated consultation events, including the Force Forward project, which explored the priorities of around 500 young people
- 4.4 The OPCC is working to develop a Communications Strategy for 2013/14 which has objectives to inform people about the role and work of the Commissioner and drive engagement with the OPCC and the police. The strategy sets out an annual cycle of informing, consulting, listening and engaging the public, and is supported by a co-ordinated approach to public engagement via the police and local authority partners as well as with other local, regional and national stakeholders. The OPCC has also worked with the Constabulary to develop joint communication plans across priority areas which create a clear focus for communications and a shared narrative for both organisations.
- 4.5 The Commissioner is committed to appointing a Youth Champion and Health and Wellbeing Officer to develop relationships with and improve understanding of the issues affecting young people, particularly vulnerable and hard to reach young people. The Commissioner is also developing Youth Forums and supporting BME Focus Groups and round table event for young people to explore issues of significant concern to those participating.
- 4.6 The Commissioner has been working pro-actively with the Community and Voluntary Sector to develop relationships with CVS umbrella organisations and key partners. This has included work with Voscur, South Somerset and Taunton Voluntary Action and the West of England Rural Network to promote the Commissioner's Community Action Fund and support applicants in making their applications and work to scope and Victims Commissioning and Community Safety Grant opportunities.
- 4.7 The Commissioner launched her Community Action Fund of £200,000 on 1 May 2013 to support local voluntary and community groups in responding to the Police and Crime priorities. The fund is administered by the Police Community Trust, which is a well-established charitable grant giving organisation. In order to make the scheme as accessible as possible the Commissioner has sought advice from VCS umbrella organisations on the application process and arranged for grants advisors to be at the launch event in order to support potential applicants. Further details regarding the fund can be found at:-www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk/Partnerships/Commissioners-Community-Action-Fund.aspx

"It is paramount to me that communities have trust and confidence in the crime and community safety services they receive. Good governance, openness and transparency will be critical to ensuring that this is the case".

- 5.1 The Commissioner has worked to improve the accessibility of local information and ensure that key decisions are made in an open and transparent way. The Commissioner's website is compliant with the requirements of the Elected Local Policing Bodies Publication Scheme including details of office holders, salaries, expenses and register of interests, organisational budget and asset information, register of decisions and policies. The OPCC dealt with 24 Freedom of Information Requests between November 2012 and May 2013, which was comparable to the number received (27) during the same period in 2011/12. Further details of the Commissioner's approach to openness and transparency can be found on the PCC website at:- http://www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk/Openness/Openness.aspx
- 5.2 The Police and Crime Panel has a statutory responsibility to scrutinise and maintain a regular check and balance on the performance and activities of the Commissioner. The OPCC has actively engaged with the panel having established joint agenda briefings and a joint work programme for 2013/14. The Panel met six times between November 2012 and May 2013 to confirm appointment of Chief Constable, confirm the precept level and review the Police and Crime Plan. The Commissioner has committed to maintaining an open and transparent approach, provide regular updates to the panel and involve panel members in relevant engagement activities where beneficial. Further information can be found at:
 http://www.bristol.gov.uk/page/council-and-democracy/avon-and-somerset-police-and-crime-panel
- 5.3 The Police and Crime Panel's role in handling complaints against the Commissioner has been delegated to the Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer for the OPCC who produces a regular report to the Panel for review. The Panel also conducts routine dip sampling of complaints. Between November 2012 and May 2013, the OPCC received 9 complaints against the Commissioner, of which 8 were immediately resolved by way of explanation and one was escalated to the Police and Crime Panel and resolved by explanation and recommendations to the OPCC. No complaints were received against the Chief Constable during this period.
- 5.4 The OPCC has developed and recruited individuals to a Volunteer Panel that will dip sample complaints made against the Constabulary in order to provide increased transparency, openness, independence and oversight of the process.
- 5.5 The Commissioner also held 6 weekly performance scrutiny meetings with the Deputy Chief Constable between November 2012 and May 2013 and reviewed progress via a monthly performance scorecard. Routine updates are provided on the Commissioner's website on the Constabulary and OPCC's performance in delivering the objectives of the police and crime plan. The Commissioner also published her response to key HMIC Inspection reports during this period, including a follow up to the 'Without Fear or Favour' integrity inspection in December 2012 and Custody inspection in February 2013.
- 5.6 The OPCC continues to manage the statutory Custody Visiting Scheme for Avon and Somerset, which provides independent oversight of custody facilities and detainee welfare. The Annual Report for the scheme can be found on the Commissioner's website at:

 http://www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk/Openness/Reports-meetings-decisions.aspx
- 5.7 The Commissioner is committed to ensuring an equitable distribution of funding across Avon and Somerset. This was marked in 2013 by the introduction of a needs-based formula for Community Safety Grant allocations which was reviewed and agreed by key stakeholders. The Commissioner has committed to developing a commissioning strategy which will inform the approach to commissioning and formula grant distribution during the 2014 to 2017 period.

"The Constabulary has excelled in meeting the challenges of budget reductions in 2012/13 while safeguarding local services. This measured and strategic approach will stand the organisation in good stead for the further financial challenges that lie ahead".

6.1 The Commissioner has been working with the Constabulary to meet the challenge of delivering savings of £42 million between 2011/12 and 2014/15 arising from the current Comprehensive Spending Review. By May 2013, savings of £35 million had been identified for delivery up to the end of 2013/14. This is set out in the Medium Term Financial Plan as part of the Commissioner's Statement of Accounts:- http://www.avonandsomerset-pcc.gov.uk/Openness/Finance.aspx

The Commissioner set her budget for 2014/15 which included provisions for the normal inflationary cost increases for pay, goods and services, and recognised a commitment to:

- Delivering the aims and objectives of the Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan;
- Successful delivery of the accommodation strategy to rationalise and modernise the estate and the associated PFI project;
- Continued commitment to collaboration projects in the region including serious and organised crime in the South West region;
- Continued investment in technology to provide and efficient and effective service;
- Investment in the Commissioner's Public contact and engagement programme and setting aside £2.4 million for community safety projects.
- The Commissioner has also been working closely with the Chief Constable in considering various scenarios for further funding reductions in the next CSR and options for the reconfiguration of police services to meet public demand with fewer resources. The Commissioner and Chief Constable have agreed a set of guiding principles to govern this change-program and will remain very closely involved in all proposed strategic changes. Recent inspections by HMIC have been supportive of the approach taken in Avon and Somerset and recognise that savings are being achieved ahead of plan and the public are being put first during these challenging times.
- 6.3 The OPCC has been working with partners to address issues relating to detainees held in police custody under s136 of the Mental Health Act 1983 'places of safety'. The OPCC is also working with the Constabulary and partners to commission drug referral services in police custody in the new PFI buildings from 2014/15. Preparations are also being made to work with partners to review the use of community impact statements, victim personal statements and scrutiny of out of court disposals.
- 6.4 Following extensive public consultation, the Commissioner identified an additional public priority as part of the Police and Crime Plan to ensure that the Constabulary provides a visible and accessible service. The Commissioner has committed to launching a Police and Crime Survey in collaboration with the Constabulary to improve understanding and monitoring of public perceptions of police accessibility and visibility. This will be monitored throughout the Commissioner's term in office alongside a programme of activity to maintain and enhance the visibility and accessibility of local services where ever possible.

7. NATIONAL POLICING REQUIREMENTS

"My initial meetings with regional Police and Crime Commissioner counterparts have been truly encouraging and it is clear that we all share a vision to improving services and resilience to crime across the South West Region".

- 7.1 The Commissioner has reviewed the Constabulary's local assessment and gap analysis in response to the Home Office Strategic Policing Requirement (SPR). The Commissioner has gained assurance that the force has the capacity and capability to respond to significant cross border risks and threats as set out in the SPR through oversight and scrutiny at the Constabulary's Protective Services Leadership Board. The Commissioner also continues to oversee delivery against key action plans across this area of business.
- 7.2 The five regional Police and Crime Commissioners have met regularly since the election in November. The Commissioners have agreed a joint vision which was incorporated into each respective police and crime plan. They have also agreed a number of collaboration projects including a regional scheme for the protection of witnesses. The Commissioners are also working to expand an existing Special Branch collaboration and to develop Tri-Force Specialist Operations between Avon and Somerset, Gloucestershire and Wiltshire.

8. PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES

"I am pleased with the ongoing performance improvements seen across many areas of service in 2012/13, but recognise that we still have some way to go in order to meet my aspiration of becoming a top 10 performing force across all of my priorities by 2017".

- 8.1 Total recorded crime fell by a further 13.7% in 2012/13, with 15,000 fewer crimes compared to 2011/12 and continuing the long term reduction in crime recorded by both police statistics and the Crime Survey for England and Wales since 2001/02. Despite this positive trend, the performance position fell marginally short of the 2010/11 baseline at 30th nationally.
- 8.2 The overall detection rate in Avon and Somerset reached 36.5%, also continuing the year on year increase since 2001/02 and reaching the highest level ever recorded locally. The Constabulary's relative position increased from 17th nationally to 11th in last year, meeting and exceeding the performance aspiration set.
- 8.3 The Police Authority set a further seven performance aspirations as part of the 2012/13 Policing Plan in the areas of serious violence against the person, serious acquisitive crime, crime and ASB victim satisfaction and serious sexual offence detections. Of these of which four were met and three were narrowly missed.
- 8.4 Most notably, the Constabulary achieved top ten national performance positions for reducing serious violent crime and detecting serious sexual assaults. The Constabulary also maintained strong satisfaction levels amongst ASB victims (80.9%) and improved performance with regard to serious acquisitive crime detection rates, moving from 28th nationally to 23rd.
- 8.5 Performance fell marginally short of a top ten national position in the areas of overall victim satisfaction (13/43) and detection rates for serious violence (11/43). Similarly, the performance position with regard to serious acquisitive crimes failed to improve beyond 24th nationally, despite a further 7% reduction in offences in the last year.

Table 1. 2012/13 Policing Plan Performance Outcomes: National Position and Outturn

	2010/1 Position	1 Baseline (Outturn)	201 Position	11/12 (Outturn)	2012/13 Aspiration	201 Position	2/13 (Outturn)
1a. Overall satisfaction - crime victims	16/43	(87.1%)	6/43	(87.3%)	Top 10	13/43	(86.7%)
1b. Overall satisfaction - ASB victims	*	(80%)	*	(80.0%)	>80%	*	(80.9%)
	•		•				
2a. Total recorded crime rate	29/43	(118,961)	33/43	(115,129)	Improve on baseline	30/43	(99,322)
2b. Detections crime (sanction)	21/43	(33.8%)	17/43	(35.0 %)	Improve on 2011/12	11/43	(36.5%)
3a. Serious violence rate	6/43	**	14/43	**	Top 10	8/43	(278)
3b. Detected serious violence	7/43	(62.9%)	11/43	(69.1%)	Top 10	11/43	(65.5%)
	•		•				
4a. Serious acquisitive crime rate	24/43	(18,286)	24/43	(15,963)	Improve on 2011/12	24/43	(14,799)
4b. Detected serious acquisitive crime	27/43	(14.7%)	28/43	(14.3%)	Improve on baseline	23/43	(13.3%)
			•		•		
5a. Detected serious sexual offences	10/43	(35.2%)	10/43	(36.1%)	Top 10	6/43	(33.6%)

^{*} Comparative ASB victim satisfaction rates are not available across all police forces nationally

- 8.6 The performance aspirations set out within the Commissioner's 2013/14 Police and Crime Plan present a number of key challenges for the Constabulary. These include:-
 - Improving and sustaining burglary detection rates from 29th to 24th nationally in the next year and becoming a top 10 performer by 2017
 - Further reducing burglary levels from 24th to 20th nationally in the next year and becoming a top 10 performer by 2017
 - Delivering consistently high satisfaction rates to achieve a 'top 10' national position for crime victims and over 82.8% satisfaction rate for ASB victims
 - Tackling and developing our understanding of recent reductions in public confidence to achieve a top 10 national position (currently 28th)
 - Maintaining strong detection rates for serious sexual offences while increasing levels of reporting for these offences

^{**} Serious violence rates post April 2012 are not comparable due to changes in recording categories

YOUTH CRIME AND SUBSTANCE MISUSE - £141,141

Table 2a. NI111: First Time Entrants by financial year (Per 100,000 10-17 year olds)

	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Bath And North East Somerset	1059.0	706.0	512.3
Bristol	1241.0	1220.0	669.9
North Somerset	904.0	708.0	699.2
Somerset	873.8	901.5	615.7
South Gloucestershire	925.0	711.0	565.5
Avon and Somerset (PNC)	996.5	900.0	618.0

2012/13 Aim	Diff to baseline	Diff to Aim
n/a	-27.4%	n/a
n/a	-45.1%	n/a
> 800.0	-1.2%	-12.6%
n/a	-31.7%	n/a
> 800.0	-20.5%	-29.3%

	•	•	
South West (PNC)	822.0	722.0	TBC
England (PNC)	876.0	747.0	TBC

> 800.0	-31.3%	-22.7%

<u>Table 2b.</u> Young People (YOT) Discharged from Treatment Through Planned Completions (Percentage)

	2011/12 Actual	2012/13
Bath and North east Somerset	n/a	100.0%
Bristol	n/a	83.0%
North Somerset	n/a	83.3%
Somerset	76.7%	65.0%
South Gloucestershire	86.7%	87.1%

Diff to baseline	Diff to Aim
n/a	n/a
n/a	n/a
n/a	-7.4%
-15.3%	n/a
+0.5%	+2.5%
	n/a n/a n/a -15.3%

Avon and Somerset	n/a	85.6%	8

85.0%	n/a	+0.6%

The Commissioner allocated a £281m budget to the Constabulary in 2012/13 for the delivery of policing services. In addition to this allocation, the Commissioner has issued the following grants for 2013/14:-

GRANT PROFILE 2013/14

GRANT	RECIPIENT	SERVICE / PROJECT
Drug Intervention Programme (Test on Arrest): £355,000	Avon and Somerset Constabulary	Drug intervention: Providing drugs testing on arrest service and consumables across Avon and Somerset
Drug Intervention Programme (Arrest Referral): £846,000	Drug & Alcohol Action Teams: Bath and NES £ Bristol £653,339 North Somerset £33,306 Somerset £82,501 South Gloucestershire £71,640	Drug and Alcohol arrest referral: Supporting criminal justice intervention services in referring individuals who are in police custody and are identified to be misusing drugs and alcohol into treatment
Youth Crime and Substance Misuse: £245,000	Youth Offending Teams: Bath and NES £15,626 Bristol £49,788 North Somerset £19,245 Somerset £39,959 South Gloucestershire £16,523	Provide specialist services for young people across Avon and Somerset
Community Safety Grant: £650,000	Community Safety Partnerships: Bath and NES £60,000 Bristol £240,000 North Somerset £75,000 Somerset £193,000 South Gloucestershire £82,000	Supporting various Community Safety projects which contribute towards delivery of the Commissioner's Police and Crime priorities. See full summary below.
Positive Futures: £202,000	Diversionary Projects: Youth Moves £75,422 Riverside Project £62,070 Positive Engagement £64,508	Supporting youth diversionary projects in Bristol
Independent Sexual Violence Advisor Service: £88,000	Next Link	Centrally commissioned service providing confidential emotional and practical support to all victims of rape or sexual assault across Avon and Somerset
Community Action Fund: £200,000	Community and Voluntary Organisations	Various Community and Voluntary Sector projects which contribute towards delivery of the Commissioner's Police and Crime priorities. Allocations to be confirmed.
TOTAL: £2,586,000		

COMMUNITY SAFETY GRANT 2013/14: SUMMARY OF PROJECTS

PROJECT DETAILS

PROJECT	DETAILS		
	BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET		
Independent Domestic Violence Advisor Service: £30,000	Providing immediate crisis support to anyone experiencing domestic abuse or sexual violence.		
Young People's substance misuse service: £15,000	Outreach advice and support service for young people using, recreational drugs in rural areas of BaNES (Midsomer Norton and Keynsham)		
Integrated service supporting vulnerable Victims: £15,000	Supporting a single integrated service for victims of crime.		
BRISTOL			
Female Genital Mutilation Prevalence Report: £35,000	Research on prevalence of Female Genital Mutilation in Bristol and activity to raise awareness of the issue.		
Domestic & Sexual Violence and Abuse Campaign: £20,000	A year-long campaign to prevent and raise public awareness of domestic and sexual violence		
Hate Crime – Victim / Service User Support: £35,000	To develop and victim / service user base that would lead to the creation of a service user forum for victims of hate crime.		
Neighbourhood Delivery Team (NDT) Burglary Fund: £25,000	Support for work of multi-agency Neighbourhood Delivery tasking teams for burglary work		
Young Person's Substance Misuse Service: £65,000	Work with young people who are misusing drugs and alcohol or whose parents are doing so and provide specialist support		
Targeted technical solutions to reduce Burglary/ASB: £15,000	Purchase of CCTV cameras & equipment for covert deployment in locations identified as potential for repeat victimisation for burglary & ASB		
Neighbourhood Justice Project: £10,000	To support Restorative Justice Conferences which deal with low level criminal matters and ASB		
Alleygating: £10,000	Match funding to encourage community led alley gating schemes in hotspot areas for burglary and ASB		
Reducing Racially Motivated Perpetrating: £20,000	Working with young people who are expressing racist or prejudicial views, behaviour or offending (RJ, mediation and awareness raising programmes)		
£5,000	Details to be confirmed		
NORTH SOMERSET			
Integrated Community Safety Services: £75,000	Supporting the integration and co-location of services to provide a more effective, streamlined and cost effective victim and offender services.		
	SOMERSET		
Street Pastors: £10,000	Supporting the development of street pastor schemes through additional training and resources		
CCTV enhancement: £98,000	Supporting the installation and redeployment of CCTV in various locations in Somerset		
Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation: £35,000	Improving intelligence in relation to the prevalence and patterns of child sexual exploitation in Somerset and specialist support to child victims		
Make the Change programme: £30,000	Supporting delivery of a voluntary perpetrator programme for perpetrators of domestic abuse		
Dreamscheme: £9,886	Increasing awareness of the current 'Dreamschemes' in Somerset and increasing the number in operation		
Community Justice Panel: £10,114	Co-ordinating a Restorative Justice Panel for the Community, Police and Housing Associations. Cases referred are facilitated by a network of trained local volunteers		
	SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE		
Domestic Violence Empowerment Group: £6,075	Supporting delivery of an empowerment group for women who have been victims of domestic violence		
Hate Incidents Response Service: £20,513	Extending the service for victims of race hate incidents to include support for disablist and homophobic hate crime and signposting for age and gender hate crime		
Youth Outreach: £16,767	Supporting outreach youth work with young people on the streets of South Yate		
£38,645	Details to be confirmed		

DATE	EVENT / PROJECT	LOCATION
23/11/2012	Hamp Recreation Centre	Bridgwater
27/11/2012	Victim Support	Bishopsworth
30/11/2012	Weston College	Weston-super-Mare
30/11/2012	Graham House	Weston-super-Mare
30/11/2012	IMPACT/Early Intervention Project	Weston-super-Mare
30/11/2012	Alliance Homes	Weston-super-Mare
07/12/2012	Safer Stronger South Gloucestershire	Thornbury
07/12/2012	Southern Brooks Community Partnership	Patchway
07/12/2012	Chase & Kings Forest Community Project	Warmley
12/12/2012	SARI AGM	Bristol
13/12/2012	Julian House Homeless Shelter	Bath
13/12/2012	CCTV Control Room	Lewis House, Bath
13/12/2012	Business Crime Reduction Partnership	Bath
13/12/2012	Developing Health and Independence	Bath
13/12/2012	Project 28	Bath
17/12/2012	Building The Bridge	St Werburghs
21/12/2012	Safer Bristol Team	Princess House, Bristol
21/12/2012	Emergency Control Centre	Brunel House, Bristol
21/12/2012	Hartcliffe Gatehouse Centre	Hartcliffe
21/12/2012	FIP Shadowing/Briefing	Symes Building, Hartcliffe
21/12/2012	Dog Warden	Hartcliffe
21/12/2012	Community Building	Cutler Road
21/12/2012	Operation Tonic	Filton
25/01/2013	Aspire Bristol	Barton Hill
25/01/2013	Survive	Kingswood
25/01/2013	Sudanese Community Association of Bristol	Filton
25/01/2013	Hanham Friday Night Project	Hanham
28/01/2013	Bristol Museum and Art Gallery	Bristol
28/01/2013	Easton Community Centre	Easton
28/01/2013	Minehead Customer Contact Centre	Minehead
28/01/2013	Bridgwater Library	Bridgwater
28/01/2013	Wellspring Leisure Centre	Taunton
01/02/2013	Mankind	Taunton
04/02/2013	Keynsham Leisure Centre	Keynsham
04/02/2013	Midsomer Norton Town Hall	Midsomer Norton
04/02/2013	Bath One Stop Shop	Bath
07/02/2013	Coniston Community Centre	Patchway
07/02/2013	Hanham Library	Hanham
07/02/2013	Hanham Youth Club	Hanham
08/02/2013	Nailsea Precinct	Nailsea
11/02/2013	Wells Town Hall	Wells
11/02/2013	Yeovil Town Centre	Yeovil
11/02/2013	Business Crime Forum	Taunton
12/02/2013	Weston-super-Mare Town Hall	Weston-super-Mare
13/03/2013	Creative Youth Network	The Station
13/03/2013	Bristol Women's Voice	Easton Community Centre
13/03/2013	Bristol Drugs Forum	Broadbury Road
13/03/2013	Knowle West Health Association	Knowle West
13/03/2013	Knowle West Health Association	Knowle West
13/03/2013	RE-Work	Knowle West
14/03/2013	Winscombe Annual Parish Assembly	Winscombe
	•	

DATE	EVENT / PROJECT	LOCATION
19/03/2013	Turning Point	Yeovil
19/03/2013	South Somerset Muslim & Cultural Assoc.	Yeovil Mosque
20/03/2013	Clevedon Neighbourhood Watch	Clevedon
27/03/2013	Community Alcohol Partnership	Midsomer Norton
27/03/2013	Southside Family Project	Bath
27/03/2013	Curo Homes	Bath
27/03/2013	Bath Royal Literary and Scientific Institution	Bath
28/03/2013	Bobby Van Service	Nailsea
28/03/2013	Operation Bluestone	The Bridewell
28/03/2013	The Bridge Sexual Assault Referral Centre	Bristol
28/03/2013	ASB Team	Downend
28/03/2013	Road Safety Team	Taunton
04/04/2013	Bristol City Community Trust	Ashton Gate
04/04/2013	Chandos House	Redland
04/04/2013	BCfm	Redfield
04/04/2013	One25	St Pauls
04/04/2013	Young Bristol	Avon Club for Young People
05/04/2013	Street Pastors	Weston-super-Mare
09/04/2013	Safe Links	Queen Square
09/04/2013	Bristol Women's Voice AGM	Bristol
10/04/2013	Bristol Drugs Project	Bristol
11/04/2013	IMPACT Daily Tasking	Weston-super-Mare
11/04/2013	Opening Ceremony Town Hall	Weston-super-Mare
11/04/2013	Addaction Arrest Referral Centre	Weston-super-Mare
11/04/2013	Bristol Restore Trust Birthday	Horfield
16/04/2013	Cheese and Grain – Public Engagement Event	Frome
24/04/2013	Radstock Parish Forum	Radstock
25/04/2013	Public Engagement	Yate Library
25/04/2013	1625 Independent People	Patchway
25/04/2013	St Mary Magdalene Church Luncheon Club	Stoke Bishop
25/04/2013	Public Protection Unit	Kingswood
25/04/2013	Brent Knoll House Making the Changes	Cribbs Causeway
29/04/2013	Chapel Allerton parish Council	Stone Allerton
30/04/2013	Federation of Small Businesses (FSB)	Frome
01/05/2013	Commissioner's Community Action Fund	Colston Hall
02/05/2013	Public Services Students	Somerset College
02/05/2013	RSPCA	West Hatch, Taunton
02/05/2013	YMCA	Bridgwater
02/05/2013	Somerset Rural Youth Project	Bridgwater

Bath & North East Somerset Council			
MEETING:	Economic and Community Development Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel		
MEETING DATE:	18 July 2013		
TITLE:	Community Safety Plan: Domestic Violence and Abuse profile		
WARD:	ALL		
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM			

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 The report illustrates the extent and nature of domestic violence and abuse within Bath and North East Somerset. It sets out the main aims of the Domestic Violence and Abuse Profile and what this means for Bath and North East Somerset Council and the Community Safety Partnership
- 1.2 The Panel will receive a presentation on the 2012-2013 Domestic Violence and Abuse Profile, involving a clear analysis of data assembled from various agencies and key services. There will also be an opportunity to hear about the work of the Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs), working in and with our communities to support victims and families.
- 1.3 The Panel will be invited to an open question and answer session at the end of the presentation.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To note the evidence from the Domestic Violence and Abuse Profile, and to raise questions in relation to the key findings from the data analysis.
- 2.2 To note the use of the Profile as guidance tool for those working to address the local issues identified and to those that provide support for victims.
- 2.3 To make any recommendations to Cabinet or Responsible Authorities Group.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Some analytical and research resources are required for this work and this will be undertaken by the Policy and Partnerships Team working with relevant service commissioning leads.
- 3.2 Funding for the various projects highlighted come from a mix of specific Community Safety budgets and mainstream partner budgets. However, our Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) Service is currently funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner to April 2014: future funding is a key issue for consideration.

4 THE REPORT

- 4.1 The purpose of this report is to build on the 2011 Domestic Violence profile to provide a more up to date and comprehensive evidence based picture of the extent and nature of the issue of domestic violence and abuse within Bath and North East Somerset.
- 4.2 The principal aims of the Domestic Violence and Abuse Profile are:
 - (1) To bring together data in one single document from Council services and other organisations and agencies that involved with addressing the issue of domestic abuse, and/or who work with victims or perpetrators of domestic abuse within Bath and North East Somerset
 - (2) Through clear analysis of data from the various agencies involved, to provide a broad, holistic picture of the nature and extent of the domestic abuse issue in Bath and North East Somerset that is accessible to all.
 - (3) To highlight the wide range of agencies and organisations that have a role in addressing the causes and effects of domestic abuse.
 - (4) To identify gaps or weaknesses in information being recorded, as well as particular demographics or needs that may not be being adequately addressed.
 - (5) To outline a number of recommendations in terms of improving the monitoring of domestic violence and abuse and in the nature and relationship of the available services.
- 4.3 The profile is also designed to help service providers shape schemes that meet need and also to help with effective allocation of resources. The Council is one of 9 areas to be selected to take part of the next stage of Community Budgets, whereby funding streams from partners are joined together to get the best outcomes. Several of the first phase Community Budget localities used the approach to tackle domestic violence and abuse, and learning from these pilots will be examined fully as part of this project.
- 4.4 The presentation will highlight a small element of the findings generated by the information that has been analysed. This will examine:
 - Levels of incidents and reporting
 - When domestic abuse is more likely to occur
 - Where domestic abuse is more likely to occur
 - The nature of abuses
 - Offenders
 - Victims
- 4.4 The attached Executive Summary (Appendix 1) sets out key data that characterise the issues identified across Bath and North East Somerset.
- 4.5 Appendix 2 provides a directory of support services for victims of domestic violence and abuse. This leaflet has been developed by Community Safety Partners to include volunteers, service users and charity groups.

5 RISK MANAGEMENT

5.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

6 EQUALITIES

6.1 Promoting equality and opportunity for all groups and individuals across the equality strands and promoting community cohesion is integral to this work.

7 CONSULTATION

7.1 Divisional Director, Policy and Partnerships; Democratic Services.

8 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

8.1 Community Safety, Section 17 and 115 Crime and Disorder Act 1998; Other Legal Considerations.

9 ADVICE SOUGHT

9.1 The Council's Monitoring Officer (Council Solicitor) and Section 151 Officer (Divisional Director - Finance), Housing Services and Environmental Services had the opportunity to input to this report and have cleared it for publication.

Contact person	Sue Dicks, Community Safety Manager - 01225 477415 Sue dicks@bathnes.gov.uk	
Background papers	Summary of Domestic Violence and Abuse profile for Bath and North East Somerset Leaflet - Link for victims of domestic violence and abuse http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/sites/default/files/domestic violence se	
rvice information.pdf Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in a		
alternative format	·	

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Executive summary - Domestic Violence and Abuse profile Bath and North East Somerset

Domestic violence and abuse is considered to be:

Any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive or threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those aged 16 or over who are or have been intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality. This can encompass, but is not limited to, the following types of abuse: psychological; physical; sexual; financial; emotional.

This definition is a useful starting point when investigating the problem of domestic violence and abuse in Bath and North East Somerset, as it specifically refers to that which occurs between those with an intimate or family relationship, a factor that makes domestic violence and abuse particularly concerning and difficult to address.

The definition, which is not a legal definition, includes so call 'honour' based violence, female genital mutilation (FGM) and forced marriage, and is clear that victims are not confined to one gender or ethnic group.

Overall rates and trends

- According to synthetic estimates based on the 2009 British Crime Survey, In Bath and North East Somerset 5,936 women and girls have been a victim of domestic violence and abuse in the past year
- The number of domestic violence and abuse related referrals to adult safeguarding has risen steadily over time from 46 in 2008/09 to 128 in 2011/12. However, this is in line with overall rates of reporting
- There have been 683 cases discussed at multi-agency risk assessments (MARAC) for high risk domestic violence and abuse cases since 2009, of which 23% have been repeats
- Rates of recorded domestic violence and abuse offences by the police have remained largely stable over time, with an average 70 crimes a month in 2012
- There were 1283 notifications of domestic violence incidents to Children's social care in 2011, up 18% from 2010, although recording has now been standardised and 252 children were affected by MARAC cases in 2012
- It is estimated that the annual physical and mental health care costs of domestic and sexual violence experienced by women in Bath and North East Somerset is over £3.7m of a total cost to society of £17.1m annually.

Profile of domestic violence and abuse

- Higher rates of police recorded domestic violence and abuse are recorded within urban wards and is strongly correlated with socio-economic inequality
- 9% of unemployed women are estimated to experience domestic violence and abuse, higher than the average rate
- There are concentrations of domestic violence and abuse crimes, calls and incidents during the weekend throughout the evening and night
- Half of domestic violence and abuse crimes are recorded as taking place on street
- Physical and emotional financial violence and abuse make up 83% of causes of adult safeguarding referrals and violence against the person is the most common recorded crime type.

Offenders

- 79% of domestic violence/abuse offenders recorded by the police were male, whilst 17% were female (remainder unknown and this has not changed over time
- Offenders tend to be younger, with the under 30s experiencing the greatest concentration of offenders known to the police and probation service.

Victims

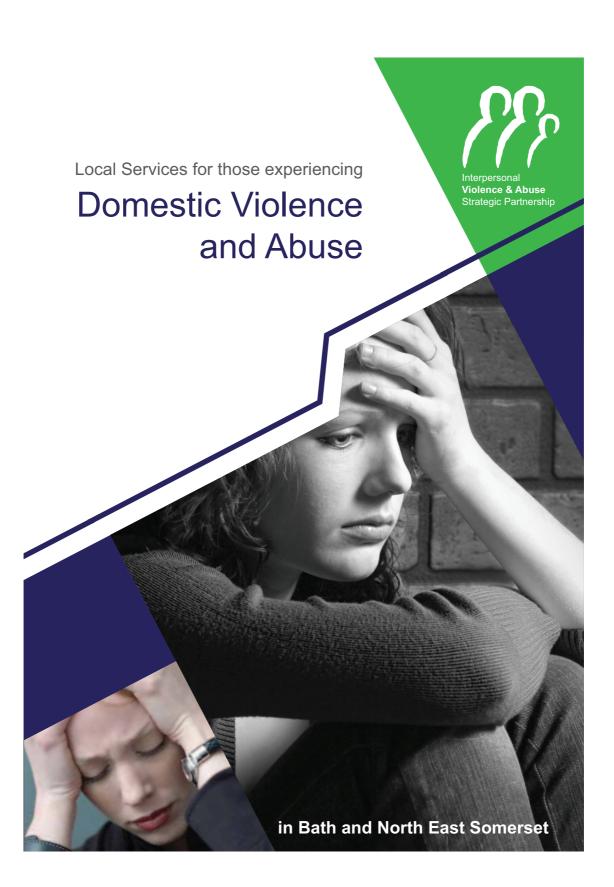
- The number of repeat victims at MARAC has remained reasonably consistent over time, with 24% of cases being repeats between 2009 and 2012
- 78% of adult safeguarding referrals 92% of MARAC cases and 77% of recorded crimes involved women as victims of domestic violence and abuse
- Estimates also suggest under-recording amongst male victims, these suggest up to 40% of domestic violence and abuse victims are male - the offence pattern is broadly similar across genders
- The age of victims are spread evenly between age ranges 16-45 for recorded crime, whilst half of the safeguarding were for people in the 64+ age range
- Although white victims represent a lower than expected proportion of police recorded crimes, the ethnicity for substantial proportion of cases had not been recorded
- Studies have demonstrated that survivors of violence and abuse would most like to receive support from doctors above any other professional.

Multiple needs

- Victims of domestic violence and abuse experience a wide range of mental health risk and are at least 3 times more likely to experience depression or anxiety disorders than other women
- There were 13 referrals into specialist programme or perpetrators with substance misuse issues between July 12 and Apr 13 and 19% (n=18) of offenders known to probation teams had risk linked to drug use
- 64% (n=61) of offenders known to probation teams had risk linked to alcohol use
- Estimates suggest women who suffer from ill-health and disability area almost twice as likely to experience domestic abuse as those who do not
- A substantial majority of referrals to adult safeguarding services had physical disabilities, this
 will be strongly related to the age profile of the victims and 19% of these referrals were
 investigated by local Mental Health providers.

Recording and understanding domestic violence and abuse

- Nationally, 15% of women suffering domestic violence and abuse had any reference to this
 fact in their NHS primary care record. Using national hospital admission codes, there were
 fewer than 10 hospital admissions for 2009-2011 in B&NES and no A&E admissions.
 However there were between 33.47 and 45.43 emergency hospital admissions for violence
 per 100,000 age standardised population
- No current data exists to gather domestic violence and abuse information from GPs, although studies of previous GP led projects to support victims have demonstrated up to £2,500 cost-effectiveness per year of quality adjusted life
- Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust has stated that it holds no information on domestic violence and abuse
- Developing Health Independence was in the process of changing IT systems at the time of the project and limited data was available.



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What is domestic violence and abuse?

What is domestic violence and abuse?

Domestic violence and abuse can be physical, emotional, sexual or financial abuse. If you are physically or verbally threatened, or made to feel afraid of someone you love, you may be experiencing abuse; there are services in Bath & North East Somerset that can help you.

You may experience domestic violence and abuse from your partner or ex-partner, or from a family member. These could include your children or siblings. You do not have to be straight to experience abuse from your partner, you could be in a gay or bisexual relationship.

Children and young people also experience domestic violence and abuse not just in their own relationships, but by trying to intervene to protect a parent, loved one or pet, or by hearing or seeing abuse taking place in their family.

Domestic violence and abuse can happen to anyone. It cuts across all boundaries of class, wealth, religion, culture, ethnicity, age, disability and sexual identity.

Interpersonal Violence & Abuse Strategic Partnership

The Partnership Against Domestic Violence & Abuse (PADVA) is part of the Bath & North East Somerset's Community Safety and Drugs Partnership. It is made up of statutory and voluntary sector organisations working together to:

- Improve the provision of services of support to survivors/victims, both adults and children
- Work for the prevention of domestic violence and abuse
- Improve protection under the law

1

Safety Planning - Plan your Safety

Domestic violence and abuse can result in serious injury and even death. Here are some pointers but remember every situation is different. If an abuser wants to do you harm, there may well be nothing you can do to stop it. However, with planning and thinking ahead, you may be able to increase your chances of staying safe or getting away from violence.

During a violent incident

- Try to stay out of rooms where weapons are available/ or that can be locked.
- If you are on good terms with a close neighbour, consider setting up a signalling system.
- If you have a child who is old enough, talk to them so that they know it's ok to run to a neighbour's house or call the police if they think you or they are in danger.
- Practice how to get out of your home safely and quickly, including your children and pets.

- Plan ahead where you would go in an emergency or how to get to a safe place, try not to go to a place that the abuser knows and might follow.
- If the incident happens in public, ask people present to call the police.
- Trust your judgment there may be warning signs that you recognise. You have the right to protect yourself (and your children).

Staying Safe

After an incident

- Get medical help if you or anyone else is injured.
- If you decide that your abuser cannot be allowed into your house, the Police or housing association may be able to help with strengthening doors and windows.
- If you call the Police, they will usually arrest the abuser and take him or her away, if only for a short time, which could give you time to get to a safer place.
- Phone a local support agency or a national helpline for advice and support.

Leaving safely

- Try to have some money in a safe place for transport. The Police may be able to get you to a safe place or Social Services may provide a travel warrant if you have children.
- Put important documents in a safe place such as birth certificates, passports, marriage certificate, any court orders, benefit books, cheque books and credit/ debit cards so that you can take them in a hurry. Keep a note of important reference numbers in case you can't take your documents.
- Have a spare house key and car key hidden for an emergency.

- Take any essential medicines

 try to have spare supplies
 hidden for an emergency.
- If you have to leave important things behind, ask the police to escort you back to collect them.
- If you have a mobile phone, make sure that you can't be traced through it or change your number, to prevent harassment calls.
- Think about where you could go – to a friend or family member, to a women's refuge.

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Housing Options and Homelessness Team

Bath and North East Somerset Council Tel: 01225 477 000 Lewis House Manvers Street Bath BA1 1JG

www.bathnes.gov.uk housing@bathnes.gov.uk Open - 8.30am - 5pm

Service Description:

The Housing Options and Homelessness Team provides advice to people in the B&NES area on their housing options: emergency accommodation, getting on the housing register, and how to make a homeless application.

If you are seeking to move to the area from elsewhere, or need to be re-housed due to domestic violence, you can apply to us.

A domestic violence victim can complete a statement of fact detailing the violence and abuse they are experiencing with the help of support agencies they are in contact with.

This statement of fact will inform housing advisors of the nature and danger of the abuse. This could help you be prioritised for re-housing.

Who is this Service for?

Anyone can access this service. Joint assessments are carried out with Social Services for those under 18 years.

Accessibility:

We have access to provisions made available through the Council including home visits for those clients who have mobility issues, interpretation services for non English speakers and trained staff in sign language. There is a minicom system in Lewis House. These offices are wheelchair accessible.

Housing Related Services

Libra Project - Women's Refuge / Temporary Accomodation

PO Box 3979 Bath, BA1 0DH

Tel: 01225 354 661

Service Description:

We provide safe and supported short-term accommodation for women and children experiencing domestic violence abuse.

Women can stay for a short period or longer term whilst they look for safe new housing. Staff provide a range of support for women including access to benefits, housing and legal advice to enable women to make their own decisions.

Women moving on from the Libra Project are offered support with settling into their own accommodation. The Libra Project also provides a 24 hr on-call service for women staying at the Libra Project.

Who is this Service for?

Women 18 years and over with or without children. The Libra Project offers support to women who have additional support needs with drug/alcohol use or mental health. We accept self of agency referrals. The project will also consider families with pets but will need to access the impact and risk to other residents and staff before accepting pets. Additionally, the Libra Project is able to accept women with no recourse to public fund subject to funding and circumstances.

Accessibility:

We have capacity to work with women with complex needs and women from outside the area. We do not have wheelchair access.

5

Housing Related Services ???



Next Link - Domestic Violence Services

PO Box 4128 Bath BA1 0FW Tel: 01225 466 989

Open: 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday

In an emergency and out of hours, contact the Police who will contact us enquiries@nextlinkhousing.co.uk www.nextlinkhousing.co.uk

Service Description:

We provide safe temporary accommodation for women and children who have experienced domestic abuse. Each woman has a support worker who helps her draw up an individual support plan which is reviewed regularly.

Practical and emotional support is given and includes making safety plans, finding new accommodation, help with parenting issues, benefits and

income, and with recovering from the impact of abuse. All children are offered help with finding schools and nurseries, making friends, liaising with health visitors and social workers etc.

We offer a Resettlement and **Tenancy Support Service** to families moving from any temporary accommodation and to families wanting to stay in their property.

Who is this Service for?

We work with women 18 years and over who have experienced domestic abuse and their children, aged 0-16.

Accessibility:

We provide interpreters and BSL signers when necessary. We cover the whole of B&NES and welcome families from urban and rural areas. Unfortunately we have no wheelchair access due to the age of our building.

Referral and Assessment Team

Bath & North East Somerset Council Children and Families Team Lewis House Manvers Street Bath www.bathnes.gov.uk

Tel: 01225 477 000 Open: 8.30am - 5pm Monday to Friday - out of hours: 01454 615 165 childcaredutyteam@ bathnes.gov.uk

Service Description:

Two referral and assessment teams are the first point of contact with Children Services at Social Services and Housing. We help children aged 0-16 who are in need or at risk of harm.

We offer advice to anybody who may have concerns about their own, or anybody else's, child(ren). Our aim is to promote the safety and well being of children and put

families in touch with services to meet their needs.

Within the team we have a domestic violence social worker who works specifically with families with children experiencing domestic violence/abuse. She is happy for people to contact her direct to talk about their experiences and offer advice and support.

Who is this Service for?

We work with families with children who have experienced domestic violence and abuse in the past, or are still living with it. Referrals can be made directly to the Domestic Violence Social Worker or through the duty social worker.

Accessibility:

We undertake home visits and can meet with families in venues closer to their home. We have links with other organisations and teams who can work with people who have specific needs, such as the Children's Disability Team and the Young Homeless and Leaving Care Team. Our offices are wheelchair accessible and we have a lift.



Barnardo's Children's Services

10 Redfield Road Midsomer Norton Bath and NE Somerset BA3 2JN Tel: 01761 410413 Opening Hours: 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday www.barnardos.org.uk/ southwest

Service Description:

- Counselling services for parents/carers
- Direct recovery work with children
- A children's therapeutic group for those affected by domestic abuse
- 'Opportunities for Volunteering' Scheme which has a focus on reaching out to families affected by Domestic Abuse
- Support and advice to schools dealing with pupils who may have experienced domestic abuse in their home

Who is this Service for?

Barnardo's domestic abuse services are for children aged 0-11 years, and non-abusive parents, from the B&NES area.

Accessibility:

We try to provide transport to children who need to come to our family centre in Midsomer Norton. We have wheelchair access. We provide services to assist those with visual and aural impairments, in addition to those with learning disabilities. Work can be carried out in various accessible buildings across B&NES.

Off the Record

113a High Street
Midsomer Norton
Bath BA3 2DA
www.offtherecord-banes.co.uk

Freefone 0800 389 5551 Tel: 01761 414 100 dvas@offtherecord-banes.co.uk Open: 9am -5pm Wednesday to Friday

Service Description:

A free, confidential advice, support and advocacy service to children and young people aged between 11 and 18 years, living in the B&NES area. We offer an unlimited amount of support sessions at a variety of venues to suit the young person. We also provide domestic abuse education in secondary schools.

Who is this Service for?

Young People aged 11-18 years, living in the in Bath and North East Somerset area, who have experienced domestic abuse in the past or may still be living with it. This could be through their own personal relationships or through their relationships with their parents and/or siblings.

Telephone or email from the above details. We accept referrals directly from the young person or from a third party with the young person's consent.

Accessibility:

We are able to travel to see the young person in any safe place. We can assist people with learning disabilities, visual and aural difficulties. Our Bath office has wheelchair access. We can provide interpreting services.

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Bath Child Contact Centre

www.bathchildcontactcentre.co.uk Tel: 07791 482 030

Service Description:

Supported contact in a safe, friendly environment for up to two hours every Saturday between children and their non-resident parent.

Who is this Service for?

The centre is designed for people with children. We do not accept clients with a criminal conviction for violence. We also do not accept people who are under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Referrals are accepted from Solicitors, CAFCASS and Social Services and Housing.

Accessibility

Accessibility: We have wheelchair access at the contact centre. We endeavour to accommodate all access requirements. Please call ahead

Free Confidential Support Services

Southside Family Project

Meade House Wedgewood Road Twerton Bath BA2 1QN Tel: 01225 331 243 Opening hours: 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday

Service Description:

We represent the interests of victims of domestic abuse and their children. Our main services include;

- Risk assessment and safety planning.
- Detailed information and help with housing, benefits, civil and criminal legal options.
- Arranging and attending meetings between clients and solicitors, benefits officers, housing services and Social Services and Housing.
- Detailed explanation of child protection procedures.

- Supporting clients through the civil, criminal and family courts.
- Helping and supporting clients to build their own networks and helping people find other services to support them.
- Link work with drug and alcohol agencies to support women experiencing DV who are also misusing substances.

Who is this Service for?

Girls, women and children who have been affected by domestic abuse.

Accessibility:

Whatever your needs are we will try and meet them. We can access interpreters in some languages, and can visit you in your own home if it is difficult for you to get out and about. Our offices are wheelchair accessible.

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Free Confidential Support Services



Victim Support

36 Dean Lane, Bristol BS3 1BS Tel: 0845 45 66 099 8am - 8pm Monday to Friday admin.bristol@ victimsupport.org.uk

Service Description:

We support victims of crime, and we have Victim Care Officers who (via the telephone line) can help you assess the risk posed to you by your abuser and find out what your initial support needs might be.

We can refer you to agencies who can help, or one of our volunteers can provide you with emotional and practical support.

Who is this Service for?

We work with ALL victims of domestic violence and abuse – men, women, those who suffer abuse from children, abuse in same sex relationships or older people who may experience abuse from carers or family members.

You can contact us yourself or ask another agency to refer you to us. They can do this by phoning the number above.

Accessibility:

We conduct rural outreach. We have some volunteers who speak languages French, Punjabi, Hindi and Portuguese. We work with people who have visual or audial impairments and cater for those who have other specific disabilities. We have wheelchair access at our office. We can carry out outreach interviews for those who cannot attend our office.

Adult Duty Team - Social Services and Housing

Bath & North East Somerset Council Lewis House Manvers Street PO Box 3343 Bath BA1 2ZH www.bathnes.gov.uk Tel: 01225 477 000 Emergency Duty Line (can be used out of hours): 01454 615 165 adult_duty@bathnes.gov.uk

Service Description:

We are a 'first stop shop' for information, advice and signposting to a range of services available for people who are vulnerable to abuse due to age or mental/physical capacity.

We also run a duty telephone help line taking Social Services and Housing referrals for a range of services including: Social Work, Occupational Therapy, Community Meals, Home Care and other community based services.

We are a responsive social work service dealing with urgent referrals and crisis situations.

Who is this Service for?

Adults 18 years and over who are subject to abuse and are vulnerable because: they have a physical or sensory disability or illness, they are elderly and frail, they have a learning disability (formerly known as mental handicap), they have a mental health problem.

Accessibility

Our offices are wheelchair accessible and we can carry out interviews at your home. You can reach us by phone and we have minicom for those with a hearing impairment. We have a loop system and British Sign Language is available by appointment.

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The New Way Project

117 Newbridge Hill Bath BA1 3PT Tel: 01225 421686

Service Description:

The service is run by Bath and North East Somerset Social Services and Housing. We work with both the victim and perpetrator of domestic violence.

The work helps parents to understand the impact of domestic violence and abusive behaviour on themselves and their children and how to keep their children safe. Work with the perpetrator focuses on taking responsibility for abusive behaviour and finding new ways of relating to family members.

Who is this Service for?

We work with couples who have children who may have experienced domestic abuse in the past, or are still living with it now. We work with a wide range of people including those who have drug/alcohol issues, mental health issues, learning disabilities and convictions for violence.

We do not work with people going through the criminal justice system because of domestic abuse or directly with children.

Referrals should be made to Maggie Ward, Domestic Violence Social Worker on 01225 396324. Please ring Maggie to discuss referrals. Self-referrals are accepted.

Accessibility

We have wheelchair access to the ground floor and have disabled parking. We work with people with visual and aural impairments in conjunction with other social services teams. We can carry out work in different locations across B&NES.

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Emergency Duty Team

Mon - Thurs 5:00pm - 8:30am Fri 4:30pm - Monday 8:30am (24 hour Saturday - Sunday) Bank Holiday 24hour

Tel: 01454 615 165 Minicom: 01454 618 966 www.bathnes.gov.uk

Service Description:

If you have had an emergency - you may be at Accident & Emergency, or you may want to find accommodation in the middle of the night – you can call the Emergency Duty Team.

If you live in Bath North East Somerset, Bristol or South Gloucestershire you can telephone this South Gloucestershire based phone number and ask for temporary accommodation, such as a Bed & Breakfast or refuge place, and they will try and accommodate you quickly. If you live in North Somerset, a duty housing officer is on call, out of hours, who you can contact through North Somerset Council (01945 622669). The Emergency Duty Team can provide temporary accommodation until the next working day.

If you can, try to call the Police and ask them to call this number for you, so that they can escort you to safe accommodation.

Counselling & Support Groups



Focus Counselling

St Michael's Church Crypt Broad Street, Bath BA1 5LJ Tel: 01225 330 096 Open Mon - Thurs focusbath@yahoo.co.uk

Service Description:

This is a confidential, safe counselling service provided by professionally qualified and skilled counsellors. We work with a range of issues including: domestic abuse, rape, couples and depression.

We also work with children aged 5 years and above who are experiencing a wide range of issues, including domestic abuse in the home.

Many of our clients are subsidised. For those who can pay, there is a fee for each session: £30 for a child or adult, £35 for couples.

Telephone for an initial interview or informal chat. We do have a lift for wheelchair users and others who are unable to use the stairs. We can work with visually impaired clients.

Survivors After Rape and Abuse (SARA)

Tel: 07947 277 848 sara-survivors@hotmail.co.uk www.sara.btik.com

Service Description:

We are a facilitated support group run by women, for women who have experienced rape or sexual abuse, of any form, at any time in their lives. We run a confidential group for women in Bath & North East Somerset who are over 18 years of age. Sessions run on Monday evenings from 6:30pm - 8:00pm at a location in South Bath easily accessed by car and public transport. Our venue is wheelchair accessible and we work with visually impaired clients. For more information please call or e-mail.

Legal Advice Services

Help from the Police

The Police have a duty to investigate any complaint you make because someone is hurting or threatening to hurt you or your children. Officers should arrest and remove your abuser or hold them in another room while they talk to you separately. If there is enough evidence they will press charges against the abuser and bail conditions can be imposed that require them to keep away from the victim(s).

If you are able, always report instances of abuse or violence, as it helps build up information on your case, even if there is no further action at the time.

- Police ask for local domestic violence officer 0845 456 7000
- In an emergency, dial 999



Legal Options

Whether or not you decide you want to leave your partner, you have the right to be protected under the law. There are a number of legal options open to you, under both the criminal law and the civil law. The two systems are separate and administered by separate courts:

- The civil law is primarily aimed at protection (or in some cases compensation). A survivor of domestic violence can make an application for an injunction (a court order) either to the family proceedings court or the county court (usually through your solicitor).
- Other family proceedings, such as child contact or divorce, take place in the county court.
- The criminal law is primarily aimed at punishing the offender. Police, together with the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), initiate the process. Criminal cases are heard in either the Magistrates' or the Crown Court depending on the severity of the charge.

Getting an injunction

You could try to gain some protection from your abuser by applying for a civil injunction or protection order. An injunction is a Court Order that requires someone to do, or not to do something. There are two main types of injunctions available under Part IV of the Family Law Act 1996:

- a non-molestation order
- an occupation order

A non-molestation order is aimed at preventing your partner or expartner from using or threatening violence against you or your child, or intimidating, harassing or pestering you, in order to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of yourself and your children.

ConstructionLegal Advice Services

An Occupation Order regulates who can live in the family home and can also restrict your abuser from entering the surrounding area. If you do not feel safe continuing to live with your partner, or if you have left home because of violence, but want to return and exclude your abuser, you may want to apply for an occupation order.

Under new legislation, a breach of a non-molestation order is now a criminal offence; however, you should still be able to take your abuser back to the civil court for breaking the order, if you prefer this. If you already have an injunction, you may have a **power of arrest** attached, and you can also have **powers of arrest** attached to an occupation order. These powers come into effect if your abuser breaks the order.

You will need to speak to a solicitor. If you are on low income, your solicitor's costs may be paid from the Community Legal Services Fund (formally Legal Aid). Try to find a solicitor who is a member of 'Resolution'.

Community Legal Services

Tel: 0845 345 4 345 www.clsdirect.org.uk www.resolution.org.uk

For independent and impartial information, advice and advocacy on issues including financial, housing and employment, the **Citizen's Advice Bureau** has offices throughout Bath & North East Somerset

2 Edgar Buildings, Bath, BA1 2EE Tel: 0844 848 7919 Fax: 01225 481 667 www.bathcab.org.uk

Town Hall, The Island, Midsomer Norton, Somerset, BA3 2HQ

Tel: 01761 418 599 Fax: 01761 410 853 www.nescab.org.uk

www.adviceguide.org.uk

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Legal Advice Services /



List of some of the	local solicitors	in the area	, this is	NOT a	ın
exhaustive list.					

Alsters Brock Street Bath

Tel: 01225 321821

B, L and B, 1 Edgar Buildings

Tel: 01225 462871

Faulkners Norton House High Street Midsomer Norton

Tel: 01761 417575

Moger and Sparrow 24 Queens Square

Bath

Tel: 01225 444882

Patrick Crossman and Co 1 Shambles, Wells Road

Radstock

Tel: 01761 431688

Stone King 13 Queens Square Bath

Tel: 01225 337599

Withy King

5 Northumberland Buildings

Tel: 01225 425731

Angell and Company 5 Pierrepont Street

Bath

Tel: 01225 484244

Burningham and Brown 20 Queens Square

Bath

Tel: 01225 310704

LHP Law 27 Gay Street

Bath

Tel: 01225 315055

Mowbray Woodwards

3 Queen Square

Bath

Tel: 01225 485700

Thatcher and Hallam Island House Midsomer Nortong

Tel: 01761 414646

Thrings Townsend Midland Bridge

Bath

Tel: 01225 340000

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Telephone Helplines



National Domestic Violence

24-hour freephone helpline for women 0808 2000 247

E-mail: helpline@womensaid.org.uk

www.womensaid.org.uk www.refuge.org.uk

Respect

A phoneline for perpetrators of domestic violence and abuse. 0845 122 8609

E-mail: phoneline@respect.uk.net Website: www.respect.uk.net

Opening hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

10am - 1pm & 2pm - 5pm

Men's Advice Line and Enquiries (MALE)

For male victims of domestic violence and abuse. 0808 801 0327

E-mail: info@mensadviceline.org.uk Website: www.mensadviceline.org.uk

Opening hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

10am - 1pm & 2pm - 5pm

Broken Rainbow – for lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender

People experiencing domestic violence and abuse.

08452 60 44 60

E-mail: mail@broken-rainbow.org.uk

Website: www.broken-rainbow

Opening hours: Monday & Thursday 2pm - 8pm

Wednesday 10am - 1pm



ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PDS FORWARD PLAN

This Forward Plan lists all the items coming to the Panel over the next few months.

Inevitably, some of the published information may change; Government guidance recognises that the plan is a best passessment, at the time of publication, of anticipated decision making. The online Forward Plan is updated regularly and can be seen on the Council's website at:

http://democracy.bathnes.gov.uk/mgPlansHome.aspx?bcr=1

The Forward Plan demonstrates the Council's commitment to openness and participation in decision making. It assists the Panel in planning their input to policy formulation and development, and in reviewing the work of the Cabinet.

Should you wish to make representations, please contact the report author or Jack Latkovic, Democratic Services (01225 394452). A formal agenda will be issued 5 clear working days before the meeting.

Agenda papers can be inspected on the Council's website and at the Guildhall (Bath), Hollies (Midsomer Norton), Riverside (Keynsham) and at Bath Central, Keynsham and Midsomer Norton public libraries.

Economic and Community Development PDS Forward Plan

Bath & North East Somerset Council

Anticipated business at future Panel meetings

Ref Date	Decision Maker/s	Title	Report Author Contact	Strategic Director Lead	
ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANEL: 18TH JULY 2013					
18 Jul 2013	ECD PDS	Annual Report of the Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner	Mandy Bennett		
18 Jul 2013	ECD PDS	Community Safety Plan: Domestic Violence and Abuse profile	Sue Dicks Tel: 01225 477415	Andrew Pate	
	COMMUNITY DEVI	ELOPMENT POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANE	L: 26TH SEPTEMBE	R 2013	
Ф 26 Sep 2013	ECD PDS	Connecting Families update	Paula Bromley Tel: 01225 396984		
11 Sep 2013 26 Sep 2013 E2508	Cabinet ECD PDS	Leisure Strategy update	Marc Higgins Tel: 01225 396423	Louise Fradd	
26 Sep 2013	ECD PDS	Update on Tourism		Louise Fradd	
26 Sep 2013	ECD PDS	Broadband Update	John Wilkinson Tel: 01225 396593		

Ref Date	Decision Maker/s	Title	Report Author Contact	Strategic Director Lead
26 Sep 2013	ECD PDS	Update on Alcohol Strategy		
ECONOMIC AND C	OMMUNITY DEV	ELOPMENT POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANE	L: 28TH NOVEMBE	R 2013
ECONOMIC AND C	OMMUNITY DEV	ELOPMENT POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANE	L: 23RD JANUARY	2014
ECONOMIC AND C	OMMUNITY DEV	ELOPMENT POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY PANE	L: 13TH MARCH 20	14
FUTURE ITEMS				
	ECD PDS	Magistrates		
Page 67	ECD PDS	Empty shops		
	Plan is administer	ed by DEMOCRATIC SERVICES : Jack Latkovic 01225 394452	Democratic_Service	es@bathnes.gov.uk

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