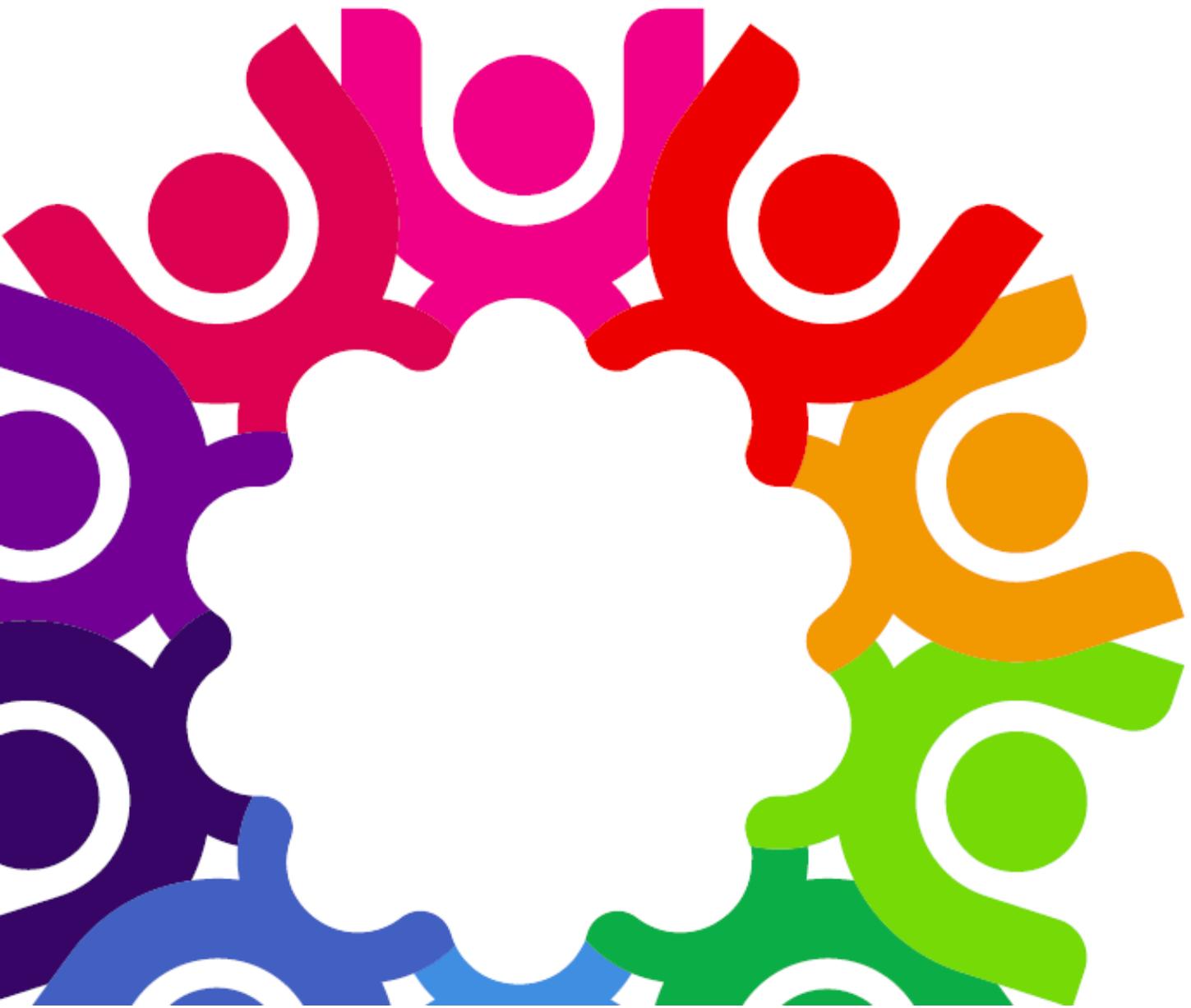




Cheshire West & Chester
**Community
Safety
Partnership**

Cheshire West and Chester Community Safety Partnership

Annual Report 2018/19



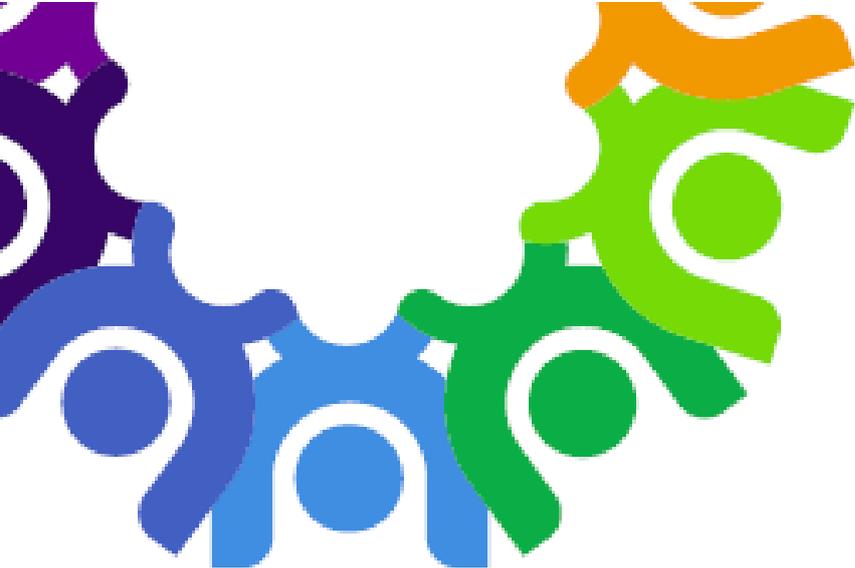
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Foreword

On behalf of Cheshire West & Chester Community Safety Partnership I am proud to present the Community Safety Partnerships Annual Report outlining our achievements in 2018/19

The Community Safety Partnership has invested in a range of initiatives to support work in achieving outcomes in a number of areas contributing to partnership working on issues that matter to our communities. This has included presenting our work to the Health & Wellbeing Board and demonstrating that the partnership fulfils all of its statutory functions as set out in the Crime & Disorder Act 1998.



Councillor **Nicole Meardon**
Cheshire West and Chester Council

Introduction

Welcome to 2018/19 Annual Report for the Cheshire West & Chester Community Safety Partnership (CSP)

Key issues emerging for Cheshire this year have included developing our understanding and ability to tackle Child Criminal Exploitation, building our partnerships in dealing with and addressing Serious and Organised Criminality, developing and expanding our ability to deal with cyber-crime, plus continuing to ensure that we have robust methods in place to deal with perpetrators of domestic abuse, ensuring that our services are properly aligned to deliver appropriate victim care to those that have suffered such abuse. The CSP has all of these areas included as their priorities and has made good progress in developing strong partnerships which will continue to grow and mature in line with future developments.

One of the emerging issues has been the understanding of exploitation of vulnerable people and in particular children. Partners have started to move away from the narrower focus of child sexual exploitation and are now looking at exploitation in its wider sense, considering issues such as County Lines and Modern Day Slavery as very real and relevant threats to the local communities. A key priority for partners will be the continuing work to the sharing of relevant information to identify those who are at risk and then ensure there is a joined up, coordinated and consistent approach.

Overall crime in the Cheshire West for 2018 continued to rise which is in line with national trends, although the 9.3% increase in Cheshire West is less than the 11.4%, Cheshire wide increase. The rise is much slower than last years which saw sharp rises due to changes in crime recording practices and it is probably fair to say that the increase is still partly down to recording practices as these have settled in across the force.

Analysis would suggest that the increase we saw over the last two years is slowing and now becoming the new norm however of note we have seen increase specifically around violence, domestic violence, stalking, harassment and cyber-crime.

Of note Cheshire West has seen a 60.4% increase in domestic violence which is a key priority for the Community Safety Partnership and should be seen as a success as this is likely to have been hidden demand, and understanding this will enable partners to deliver an appropriate service to those victims and their families through a coordinated approach. It will be key to understanding how the services have coped with this increase in demand and to understand whether further support is required.

Cyber-crime is another area where we have seen a significant increase. This is probably related to the police understanding and then identifying this crime through appropriate flags in the crime recording systems. In 2017, 471 crimes were identified which has risen to 644 in 2018. It is widely accepted that this is probably still massively under reported and therefore a focus will still need to remain on improving the visibility and reporting of this crime type. There is a need for a continued Partnership approach to these offences to ensure prevention stays at the forefront as this is currently the best solution to becoming a victim of this crime.

Trying to make the roads in Cheshire West and Chester the safest that they can be continues as a priority for the Community Safety Partnership, however we have seen an increase in the number of collisions on our roads. Fatal collisions have increased by 120% which equates to 6 more than the year before but looking at this picture over a 5yr period it is consistent with previous years and it appears that 2017 with a low figure of 5 may be the anomaly. Serious RTCs have also seen an increase of 30.7% but again over a 5yr period this is relatively stable and appears to be in relation to low numbers in 2017.

The Community Safety Partnership Priorities for 2018/19 are shown in the table below. It is important to note that the Crime & Disorder Act 1998 stipulates that Community Safety Partnerships must prioritise Reducing Reoffending, Anti-Social Behaviour, Domestic Violence, and Substance Misuse. In addition the Community Safety partnership agreed to have Exploitation, Cyber Crime, and Killed & Serious Injured as additional priorities.

This annual report explores the achievements and challenges within each priority.

Priority 1	To Reduce Re-offending
Priority 2	To Reduce Exploitation
Priority 3	To Reduce the Prevalence and Impact of Anti-Social Behaviour
Priority 4	To Reduce the Negative Impact of Alcohol and Substance Misuse
Priority 5	To Increase the Number of Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA) Reports
Priority 6	To Protect Vulnerable Adults and Children against Cyber Crime
Priority 7	To Reduce the Number of People Killed or Seriously Injured on our Roads

Priority 1: Reducing Re-offending

Lead Partner: Cheshire Police

Context: For partners to contribute positively to projects designed to promote and encourage change in individuals so that their risk of reoffending reduces.

Achievements 2018/19:

- ✓ There has been good success within Cheshire west in terms of managing cases under Integrated Offender Management (IOM) and MAPPA to manage risk of harm and reduce re-offending both of which are dependent upon a collaborative partnership approach to offender management.
- ✓ Links from MAPPA across to the IOM team and ongoing offender management.

Current picture in 2018:

- ✓ Strong partnership in CW&C and the shared commitment across all agencies involved to protect victims, encourage desistance and reduce reoffending rates.
- ✓ Positive joint work towards reducing re-offending and managing risk of harm.

Case Study: LG had been on and off IOM since July 2010, she had a history of drug misuse having started smoking heroin at around the age of 14 and shoplifting was her means to pay for her addiction.

LG was well known by all of the Chester and Ellesmere Port Local Policing Units as being a prolific shoplifter, generally stealing to order and in bulk. On one occasion she reported that she would enter a store and clear shelf loads of clothing which she would sell on to local residents of Blacon. LG was homeless for many years, sofa surfing in various houses all with links to drugs. She would be released from custody and within hours commit an offence of shoplifting and either be arrested or recalled to custody. The thefts were always high value and she was a high demand for the local policing area. Because of her lifestyle LG's health began to suffer, however due to her constant recalls these were never addressed.

In January 2019 we were able to secure her accommodation through Cheshire West and Chester council and on day of release she was accommodated in Runcorn. LG had not received benefits for many years as she had no bank account and would rely on shoplifting and friends to get by.



Case Study (cont): An

appointment with Lloyds bank was set up and her UC claim meaning that she had access to regular income. For a short period LG was given food bank vouchers to get her through her initial period in Runcorn. Whilst in Runcorn there were no reports of offending and she would keep in touch, providing negative drug tests, maintained her script and even when there were issues she would contact to inform us.

Through some joint working with Forfutures LG was given the keys to her own flat in Ellesmere Port and has maintained this tenancy for over a year. As she was now accommodated LG applied for PIP and was awarded this based on her illnesses, and was later awarded the higher rate of universal credit. This was a concerning time for her as she now had large amounts of cash being placed in her account and there was a fear she would start using drugs. LG however continued to provide clear samples and then even began to pay some housing arrears setting up direct debits on her account to avoid any legal action.

LG was removed from the IOM after a period of no offending and on checking Police Systems there are no reported incidents involving her for over a year. LG now has contact with her family and is seeing her grandchildren on a regular basis, something she had always wanted. She now reports that without the help of the IOM she would be stuck in her cycle of offending and wouldn't have the chance to see her grandchildren growing up.

Emerging Challenges:

- ✓ Clarity on the responsibility of each agency within IOM.
- ✓ Link IOM through to MAPPA in relation to ongoing risk management.
- ✓ Determining the demographics of future cohorts with a greater focus on expanding the offer to domestic abuse perpetrators.

Next Steps:

- ✓ Acceptance and agreement from all core agencies to commit to the IOM model locally.
- ✓ National governance from central government, enabling scrutiny and review.
- ✓ National training for those staff engaged in IOM work.
- ✓ Local governance arrangements via Local Criminal Justice Boards.
- ✓ Local case management arrangements.
- ✓ Clear administration and communication to offenders subject to IOM arrangements.
- ✓ National performance and management information framework.
- ✓ Clear preventative strand.
- ✓ Alignment to the Female Offending Strategy.

Priority 2: Exploitation

Lead Partner: Cheshire West & Chester Council

Context:

The purpose of including this priority is for partners to work together to reduce child criminal and sexual exploitation and the exploitation of vulnerable adults.

To tackle Serious and Organised Crime and ensure that the Serious and Organised Crime Board meets regularly to consider the Local Profile, address specific elements, engage with appropriate agencies, and take appropriate actions.

- ✓ Shared and active commitment to address issues identified in the local profile
- ✓ Roll out of the Know and See Campaign
- ✓ Cheshire Wide definition agreed, including separate definition for young people
- ✓ New Child Exploitation Tool launched and embedded

Achievements 2018/19:

- ✓ Sub Regional Protocol developed and implemented
- ✓ Review of the Child Sexual Exploitation Operational Group Completed
- ✓ Child Exploitation Group launched
- ✓ LSCB Training developed and rolled out. New pool of trainers identified.
- ✓ Lunch and Learn session delivered to over 300 individuals from Partner agencies
- ✓ Bespoke training sessions delivered to Housing Providers
- ✓ Shared understanding of the profile of SOC in the borough

Next steps:

- ✓ To ensure a greater partner understanding of the Local Profile for West Cheshire and the implications with regard to exploitation and County Lines
- ✓ To work collaboratively with the LSAB to develop a training package relating to exploitation of vulnerable adults
- ✓ To establish an annual conference for elected members and governance champions from statutory partners to share data and information relating to exploitation across the borough
- ✓ To establish a data reporting dashboard, across the partnership for exploitation referrals

Priority 3: Anti-Social Behaviour

Lead Partner: Cheshire West & Chester Council

Context:

There are three dedicated ASB Units across the borough, all of which are based in police stations. The Community Safety Team includes non-uniformed Community Safety Officers (CSOs) and uniformed Community Safety Wardens (CSWs) and the ASB Units also have dedicated Police Officers from the Local Policing Units.

Working in such close partnership with the police reduces duplication and ensures that we maximise the resources available to respond to ASB reports. Community Safety staff are also accredited with a number of police powers under the National Community Safety Accreditation Scheme to tackle anti-social behaviour, and staff undertake annual training in relation to these powers. The partnership working that is managed through dedicated Community Safety management of the ASB Units ensures that resources are not being duplicated and that uniformed officers such as PCSO's and CSW's complement each other with their own focus on police and local authority priorities and sometimes patrol together.

Problem Solving Approach Problem Solving Partnership Groups exist in each locality and are managed by the ASB Units. The Problem Solving Group brings statutory and non-statutory agencies together to work in partnership in order to address Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) in Cheshire West and Chester.

In 2018 we have made stronger links with the Rough Sleeping, and Homeless Strategic Groups to ensure we are working closely with all partners on tackling these two crucial issues. The ASB Action Plan has achieved some really positive outcomes and this area or work will continue during 2019.

Achievements 2018/19:

- ✓ Range of ASB interventions delivered:
 - Advisory Letter – Adult: 57*
 - Advisory Letter – Juvenile: 126*
 - Acceptable Behaviour Discussion (ABD) – Adult: 2*
 - ABD – Juvenile: 35*
 - Acceptable Behaviour Contract (ABC) – Adult: 1*
 - ABC – Juvenile: 0*
 - Criminal Behaviour Order – Adult: 12*
 - Community Protection Notice (CPN)*
 - Warning Letter – Adult: 22*
 - CPN - Adult: 3*
- ✓ Established links with Traveller Liaison Team
- ✓ Delivered detached youth work to traveller community in Elton
- ✓ Young people from traveller community accesses youth club in Ellesmere Port
- ✓ Chester Street Pastors programme supported by CSP
- ✓ Chester Pride Supported by CSP
- ✓ Range of joint diversionary events delivered by Youth Service and Community Safety Wardens
- ✓ Robust Engagement with Outside In Group
- ✓ Chester PSPO reviewed and extended

Next steps:

- ✓ To continue to develop the teams' expertise on the range of tools and powers available
- ✓ To enhance the problem solving approach by engaging more partners and council placed based services
- ✓ To continue joint working on diversionary events
- ✓ To develop a robust performance dashboard for ASB and PCSO's

Priority 4: Alcohol and Substance Misuse

Lead Partner: Public Health

Context:

This priority aims to reduce the negative impact of alcohol and substance misuse (including New Psychoactive Substances) in Cheshire West and Chester. It links strongly to the Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy and Substance Misuse strategy of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

- ✓ Establish a Substance Misuse Partnership
- ✓ Promote a safe night-time economy
- ✓ Work to bring high impact and change resistant drinkers into treatment
- ✓ Exploring the links between alcohol / substance misuse and fires in the home.
- ✓ Establishing a drug related death panel to ensure all drug related deaths are thoroughly investigated
- ✓ Establish a Local Drug Information System to ensure drug alerts are disseminated appropriately.
- ✓ Improve outcomes for Children affected by parental substance misuse

Achievements in 2018/19:

- ✓ Purple Flag

For the second year running Chester City has been awarded Purple Flag Status in recognition of strong partnership working to ensure a safe and vibrant night-time economy in the city.

Purple Flag status evaluates activity across a number of domains including: Policy, Safety and Wellbeing, Environment, Transport.

- ✓ Safe Space

As part of the night-time economy work a 'Safe Space' project was established in September 2018. The Safe Space which operates on Saturday nights between 10pm and 4pm and offers medical triage and treatment of minor injuries as well as pastoral support to those who have become vulnerable whilst on a night out in Chester. The Safe Space has helped one hundred and ninety-six people and has diverted sixty-seven individuals away from emergency services since its launch in October 2018. It has prevented low level crime and provided valuable intelligence on substances and drink spiking.

- ✓ Drink Less Enjoy More

Also as part of the Purple Flag project has been the 'Drink Less Enjoy More' campaign which combines public facing messages with training for bar and security staff reminding them that it is an offence to either sell or purchase alcohol to someone who is already intoxicated.

Drink Less Enjoy More resulted in 107 bar staff being trained at Pubwatch and a further 30 senior staff and supervisors trained at Chester Race Course in how to spot signs of drunkenness.

Throughout 2018, a training video was shown during bar set up every day. The sale of alcohol to drunks reduced by 9%, the purchase of alcohol for drunk people reduced by more than 17% when compared to control areas.

This is achieved through communications and marketing activity aimed at students and those aged 18 to 30. The project supports bar staff to comply with the law by providing training. Extra police patrols were funded, together with test purchasing using actors to check whether venues were serving intoxicated individuals. CW&C communications team also worked closely with key partners (University of Chester, Chester Race Course, Chester Pride, Cheshire Police and the Community Safety Team) to raise the profile of the campaign.

✓ Blue Light Project

National charity Alcohol concern have been running a project in the borough to get more dependent drinkers, particularly those that have the most impact on services and are most resistant to change, into alcohol treatment. So far the project has trained over 100 frontline staff in harm reduction and engagement strategies to aide them in bringing this cohort into treatment.

✓ Drug Related Death Panel

The number of drug related deaths (DRD's) across the UK has risen significantly in the last few years. In response to this a drug related death panel has been established in the borough. Funded by the Community Safety Partnership, the panel brings together clinical and academic experts to review data on cases gathered from the coroner's office as well as from services for substance users to identify modifiable risks and contributory factors in the death and to ensure that lessons learned are brought into service delivery.

✓ Local Drug Information System (LDIS)

Also aimed at reducing risks associated with substance misuse Local Drug Information System has been established to ensure prompt dissemination of warnings and harm reduction advice are disseminated to frontline staff and service users.

Next Steps:

A Substance Misuse Partnership Board has been established to drive forward substance misuse priorities across the borough.

A new substance misuse service has been commissioned by the Local Authority and will go live on 1st April 2019. Key priorities for the new service will include:

- ✓ Improving support for those with coexisting mental health and substance misuse problems
- ✓ Improving outcomes for homeless and rough sleepers
- ✓ Increasing the numbers of people receiving alcohol treatment
- ✓ Improving support for families affected by parental alcohol misuse
- ✓ Improving the digital offer for substance and alcohol misuse.

Priority 5: Domestic Violence and Abuse

Lead Partner: Cheshire West & Chester Council

Context:

This priority aims to increase the number of Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA) reports across West Cheshire allowing agencies to offer support to more victims, children and perpetrators and start to reduce the number of incidences within those families.

Achievements 2018/19:

- ✓ The Domestic Abuse Intervention and Prevention service have delivered a total of nine Gateway programmes across Cheshire West and Chester in various locations.
- ✓ COCH IDVA supported 272 clients. The Accident and Emergency department provided the highest proportion of requests, demonstrating how a patient receives an immediate response to intervention and support. High risk patients made up 76% of the referrals received from A&E on initial presentation. The risk reduced to medium in a significant amount of cases following intervention.
- ✓ 67 maternity cases supported by the COCH IDVA with an engagement rate of 71% which is an improvement on last year.
- ✓ The COCH IDVA participated in the Safe Lives Vodafone pilot which enabled 10 clients to have handsets and SIM cards to improve safety.
- ✓ Whole team have attended the New Ways of Working training and implement trauma informed and motivational interviewing approaches in intervention and support offered to clients
- ✓ There are currently 3 staff members seconded from Early Help and Prevention with a background of supporting children and young people.
- ✓ Service represented at Domestic Homicide Reviews
- ✓ A MARAC dashboard has been created and is shared at the Domestic Abuse Partnership Board
- ✓ Teenage Relationship Training offered to professionals, raising awareness and having a joined up approach to supporting young people

Case Study:

A police Vulnerable Person's Assessment (VPA) was received by the Local Authority Children's Services i-ART team in July 2018.

The police had attended a domestic incident between a mother and father; the couple have four children aged 10, 7, 5 and 4 years of age.

The family had previously been known to Children's Social Care due to neglect, parental alcohol use and domestic incidents, including where mother was the aggressor.

The parents agreed to engage with EHP and a Team Around the Family assessment was completed. A robust plan was put in place for the family.

The two eldest children have been supported through direct work with a commissioned service and have been referred to the Young Carers Trust. The school have provided significant support, including ELSA. Throughout the work wishes and feelings work has been completed with the children and they report a more settled home life.

- ✓ Parents completed the Triple P parenting group
- ✓ Father has accessed support for his alcohol use and completed an alcohol detox
- ✓ Mother declined to attend the Gateway group but has completed some one to one work
- ✓ There have not been any police call outs or self-disclosed incidents since the VPA in July 2018

Next Steps:

- ✓ The Domestic Abuse Partnership will refresh the Strategy in 2020.
- ✓ The Local Authority Domestic Abuse Intervention and Prevention service have secured funding to develop a service that can respond to Medium Risk domestic abuse.

Priority 6: Cyber Crime

Lead Partner: Cheshire Police

Context:

Understanding the extent and reach of this type of crime will assist in delivering the best method of addressing cyber-crime which is prevention. Partners will need to keep abreast of developing legislation and also ensure that the most up to date advice and guidance is available to the community in an effort to thwart opportunities taken by cyber-crime criminals. Educating all ages will be key in minimising the impact of this type of crime as well as engaging both individuals and businesses across the Local Authority Area.

Achievements 2018/19:

Prevention has been the main focus of the work undertaken with particular attention paid to educating school aged children with inputs given across Secondary schools.

The crime figures presented below are of limited value as we only record the tip of the iceberg in respect of reporting and we should encourage more people to report so we can understand the true extent of the issue. The figures are as follows:

- ✓ 2016 – 212
- ✓ 2017 – 471
- ✓ 2018 – 644

Cheshire Police now have a dedicated Cyber Unit. Within schools the approach is predominantly focussed on reducing the exploitation risk, awareness of sharing inappropriate content, bullying messages and possible offences through gaming. Risk of financial loss or identity theft is introduced with pupils 16+.

School officers link in with national initiatives such as Safer Internet Day Feb each year. They also share and promote resources from NCA, CEOP, Kidscape, Childnet, Safer Internet Centre, Internet Matters and Get Safe Online.

In addition Schools officers and PCSOs deliver cyber safety messages to all primary and secondary school in addition Cheshire fire as part of Safety Central cyber messages. Youth PCSO's have created numerous resources for others to use to assist with the engagement and safety messages.

Crucial Crew runs very well in Cheshire West with numerous agencies delivering safety inputs of about 15 mins – Cyber safety is used in a lot of those sessions (next running in Northwich in June, runs autumn term for Chester/EP) CEOP training to adults and teachers is also offered and several sessions have been delivered to Cheshire West Staff or as part of our Internet Safety Days at HQ, pupils are encouraged to share peer to peer messages about staying safe online in their own school.

Next Steps

- ✓ Presentation to the CSP from Cyber Crime lead for Cheshire Police
- ✓ Agree joint approach to deliver prevention message to specific parts of the community.
- ✓ Understand what is already out there by means of support and identify gaps.

Further Information & Next Steps

Further Information

Further information on the work of the CSP can be found at <https://www.westcheshire-csp.co.uk/>

Next Steps

Continue to work in partnership to review priorities and develop the CSP Plan for 2019/20 based on the most up to date assessment of crime and disorder in the borough.

