



To: Scrutiny Co-ordination Committee

Date: 1st April 2015

Subject: 12 month progress update on work of Coventry Community Safety Partnership via Coventry Police, Crime & Community Safety Board.

1 Purpose of the Note

- 1.1 To provide an annual update on the work of the Coventry Community Safety Partnership and the Police, Crime and Community Safety Board in addressing matters of Community Safety and an overview of year to date performance in relation to crime and nuisance levels in the City between 1st April 2014 and 28th February 2014.
- 1.2 To update members on the priorities for the Partnership and Board for the next financial year and how the partnership will work to address those priorities through their joint working and delivery against their annual Police Crime & Community Safety Plan.

2 Recommendations

Scrutiny Coordination Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 Note the work of the Partnership directed through the Board which is based on evidence of need through assessment findings and performance in relation to crime and nuisance levels year to date.
- 2.2 Make any further recommendations about how agencies can work together better on matters of risk and harm including violence, exploitation, substance misuse, poor mental health and lifestyle

3 Information/Background

- 3.1 Responding to issues affecting the safety of the City and its communities is a statutory requirement of a number of agencies including the Local Authority. These agencies have responsible authority status with which they must do everything they reasonably can individually and collectively to prevent and detect crime and disorder and prevent re-offending. This requirement is achieved through the infrastructure of the Community Safety Partnership which is governed by the Coventry Police & Crime and Community Safety Board.
- 3.2 The Board was established a little over a year ago in response to the introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners and has continued to operate to the statutory requirements including the need to plan partnership activity to address any threat and risk to the City in terms of Crime, nuisance and disorder. An analytical assessment provided the evidence of which issues to prioritise in terms of severity and volume of incidents and crimes together with trends and patterns that they could then consider in predicting harm and respond to it.

3.3 Each Partnership Board across the West Midlands receives community safety funding from the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner. Coventry received £546k for the financial year 1st April 2014 – 31st March 2015. The Board were able to fund work that fulfils statutory responsibilities and also support the delivery of action/initiatives to address the City's priority issues. The breakdown of this spending can be found attached as Appendix 1. Details of some of the initiatives monitored and/or supported by the Board financially are outlined later in the report.

4 Police & Partnership Crime & Nuisance Levels

4.1 Coventry Recorded Crime Performance 2014/2015

Below is a summary of Police recorded crime between 01 April 2014 and 22nd March 2015; Compared with the same period 2013/2014

	2013/14	2014/15	Diff	%
TRC	21,209	21097	-112	-0.5%
BDH	1,868	1,654	-214	-11.5%
VWI	2,226	2,402	176	7.9%
ASB	8526	8171	-355	-4.2%
DV(Crime)	1930	2100	170	8.8%
DV (Non Crime)	3470	3935	465	13.4%

TRC – Total Recorded Crime

BDH – Burglary dwelling

VWI - Violence with Injury

ASB – Anti-Social Behaviour

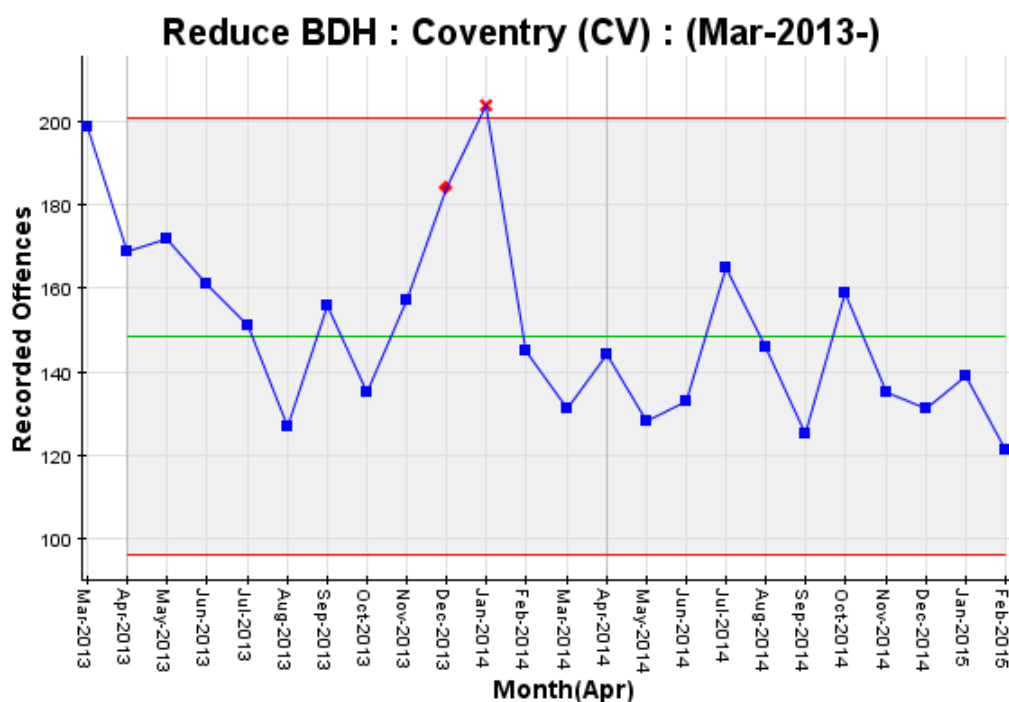
DV (crime) – Domestic Violence –recorded crime

DV (non crime) – Domestic Violence incident

4.1.1 This year has seen further reductions in Total Crime (despite 2013/14 being the lowest year for TRC ever). Burglary Dwelling and general ASB have also seen significant decreases.

4.1.2 There are increases noted in violence with injury. Part of this is due to a drive to encourage victims of Domestic Violence to report the matter to the police. This has resulted in increases of both DV Crime & Non Crime. However, the broader increase in violence (including public place violence) requires concerted focus over the next 12 months and will be one of the priorities for the LPU.

Reduce Burglary Dwellings



4.1.3 December & January saw the usual seasonal highs for this type of offence. Since then levels have fallen steadily contributing to an overall significant reduction of -11.5% (214 less burglaries) which continues on from the large scale reductions achieved last year.

4.1.4 Reducing Burglary has again been a priority for Coventry this year and a number of initiatives, introduced last year, have been further developed and incorporated into business as usual.

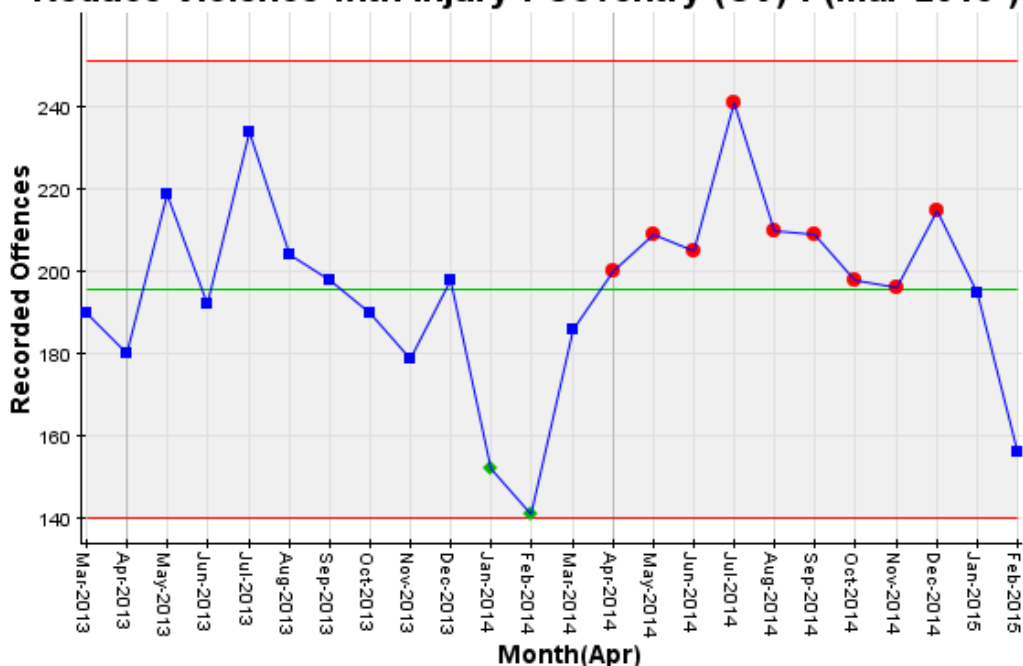
Operation Magpie – Dedicated team developing intelligence and activity in relation to outlets for stolen goods. Criminals are finding it more difficult to dispose of stolen property.

Partnership Working – Strong partnership working with key stakeholders, particularly Coventry & Warwick Universities. They have the ability to influence activity and advice offered to students. This has led to positive results around student victimisation.

Target Hardening – Identification of vulnerable areas and repeat addresses (generally student households), subsequent visits - security advice and alarms supplied. Seasonal leaflets (insecurity, leaving items on show, etc.).

Reduce Violence with Injury

Reduce Violence with Injury : Coventry (CV) : (Mar-2013-)



4.1.5 There has been an increase overall in recorded violence with injury offences this year of 7.9% (176 offences).

4.1.6 Efforts to encourage domestic violence victims to come forward have contributed to this rise as both categories of DV (crime and Non Crime) have seen significant increases (8.8% & 13.4% respectively).

4.1.7 Public place violence is an area that we need to direct our attention to over the coming 12 months. We have a focused plan to address various aspects, including the contribution of the night-time economy. We will also be focusing on the various drivers of violence including substance misuse. The locations where violence occurs will be tackled in a problem solving manner alongside a wide range of partners. Victims and offenders will be subject of additional efforts over the next 12 months.

4.1.8 In terms of the work that has been undertaken:

Continued work to monitor licensing issues on a daily / weekly basis; this has led to the closure or restrictions placed on a number of venues over the course of the past year.

Working with the RA meeting and working with a wide range of partners.

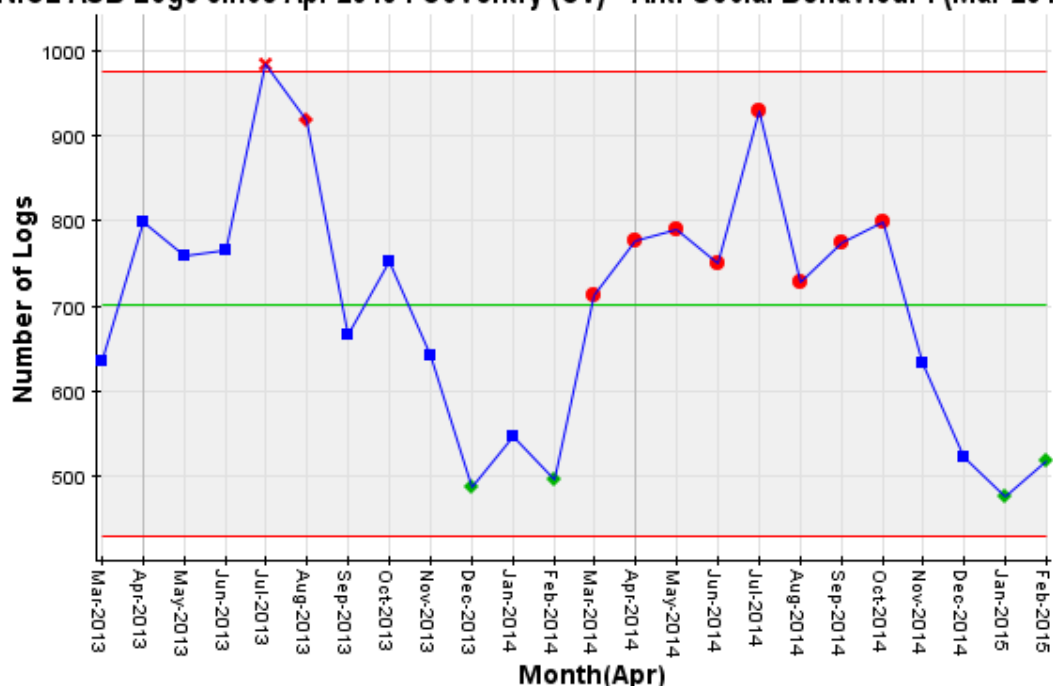
Links between the council noise team and police continue to be strengthened to improve the response to wider noise issues (household drinking / parties).

Use of new ASB Act 'Place Based' civil interventions. The act has provided us with a range of new powers to use alongside City Council colleagues.

Work with Health professionals to obtain better information about offending across the city and address route causes such as alcohol or drug use.

National Incident Category List

NICL ASB Logs since Apr 2010 : Coventry (CV) * Anti-Social Behaviour : (Mar-2013-)



- 4.1.9 This demonstrates a continuation of reductions around ASB (which is itself a strongly seasonal issue - warm weather = increased ASB). In terms of the work being undertaken there is a dedicated officer who looks specifically at ASB calls and works to identify vulnerabilities through either the type of incident or through repeat calls.
- 4.1.10 Where appropriate **ASB Non Crime** numbers are assigned to specific individuals or locations where issues are ongoing. Partner agencies and organisations work closely together to problem solve. This approach coincides with a general reduction within ASB.
- 4.1.11 Priority Locations has also focused considerable amounts of work in **'hotspots'** in an attempt to improve the environment, address root causes and discourage this type of behaviour from manifesting itself.
- 4.1.12 This has been further developed with smaller hot spot areas being subjected to intensive and academically proven **'15 minute patrolling'** on a regular basis.
- 4.1.13 **Restorative Justice** is being used successfully more frequently across the city to address minor disputes by bringing together all parties involved to try and solve the issues as opposed to repeatedly responding to the symptoms.

4.2 Other agency reported incidents of Nuisance / Anti-social Behaviour

4.3 When looking at the performance of the Partnership, it is important to consider data collected by Partner agencies as well as the police.

Being a victim of nuisance/antisocial behaviour may not necessarily be based on specific actions targeted at the victim (though repeat victimisation is prioritised where this occurs), but more often as a result of their being in the location where the incident occurs or proximity to an affected location and the witnessing of an incident. Perceptions of acceptable behaviour also differ according to location and age range of those reporting incidents. Issues which are of major concern in one particular area may not be considered a problem in another area, similarly different people or a general age grouping may not consider the actions of another person as being as being problematic.

4.4 The table below shows some of the key issues (mainly public place crime and nuisance) reported during April 2014 to February 2015.

Local Authority Environmental & Public Place nuisance incidents	Local issues raised at various Community Forums	Whitefriars Housing (12 month period Open Cases (April 14 to February 15))
<p>Top issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fly Tipping (45%) • Noise ASB (14%) • Pollution and Nuisance (10%) • Abandon Vehicles (7%) • Emergency Cleaning (5%) • Litter (4%) • Animal Welfare (4%) <p>Smaller numbers of reports were received for the following issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog Fouling • Nuisance Car Sales • Vandalism • Unsightly Properties • Street Drinking • Drug Taking/Dealing • Begging • Hate • Prostitution • Vehicle misuse 	<p>Top issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parking • Speeding • Fly Tipping, Rubbish & Littering • Hanging round on street and behaviour of Young People (<i>this can be perception based fear / concerns</i>) <p>Others issues raised in smaller numbers included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns/complains re: New housing developments • Changes to local community (area and people) 	<p>Top issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noise (20%) • Threatening Behaviour (13%) • Vandalism/ Damage to property (10%) <p>Others include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other Criminal Damage (9%) • Pets / Animal Nuisance (9%) • Drugs/ Substance Misuse/ Dealing (7%) • Misuse Communal area/ public space loitering (6%) • Litter / Rubbish / Fly Tipping (5%) • Domestic Abuse (5%) * Resident and tenant associated issues in residential dwellings include noise, neighbour disputes, domestic violence & abuse

- 4.5 Coventry City Council has recorded 14,058 incidents of Environmental and nuisance / anti-social behaviour reported to them between the months of April 2014 to February 2015 (11 month period). A reduction of around 6% in reported incidents when compared with the same period last year (*please note datasets have changed over time therefore a direct comparison is not made*), therefore reported incidents are considered a downward trend, although Fly Tipping (45%) and residential Noise nuisance/ ASB (14%) account for the largest proportions.
- 4.6 The data demonstrates small increases for some of the categories of nuisance including animal welfare, begging, gang related nuisance behaviour, pollution & environmental nuisance, street drinking and unsightly properties compared to the same period last year, although these increases are, in most instances, in very small numbers they suggest that more people are seeing this behaviour and reporting it to agencies.
- 4.7 Police and Council Data collated for the period of April to December 2014, suggests that crime and nuisance incidents reported in Priority Locations has reduced by approximately 10% compared with the same period last year. This equates to an estimated reduction of 1200 incidents across priority locations.
- 4.8 The City Centre case management meeting was set up in recognition that the City Centre has a unique set of issues that usually aren't reflected elsewhere in the City. Those issues also tend to play out in full view of the public and as such have a high profile and impact. The issues that this forum seeks to problem solve includes; street drinking, begging, rough sleeping, retail crime and problematic individuals in the Night Time Economy.
- 4.9 There are a number of operational officers, representing a range of agencies who work in the City Centre that meet to discuss problematic individuals and public space/place based issues affecting the area. These officers apply a balance of challenge and enforcement alongside support to change behaviour by ensuring that the individuals are referred into appropriate treatment and support programmes.

4.10 Residential crime and nuisance

- 4.11 Noise nuisance occurring at/from residential properties includes loud music, animal noise (barking dog), banging, DIY noise, alarms. Raised voices and/or screaming have been identified in around 96 (5%) of incidents reported; it is not possible to establish the proportion of these which may be linked to domestic incidents, vulnerability issues or where mental health is a factor. Also the trend towards drinking / partying / socialising within the home setting is also likely to be a factor within noise complaints. Further work is required to establish the percentage of these that are deemed as statutory noise nuisance as opposed to lower volume nuisance behaviour. The approach to each will differ in terms of the types of interventions applied to address them and the approach taken in doing so.
- 4.12 Nuisance / anti-social behaviour incidents associated with residential households and their occupants often have underlying drivers and can be complex in nature requiring a multi-agency approach and response. This is done through a number of different multi-agency case management forums for the partnership. These include 4 local case management forums that discuss the behaviour of individuals and families/problematic households in order to apply early intervention measures with which to prevent an escalation of nuisance and harmful behaviour.

The information shared about each case is done so between statutory agencies which have responsibility for doing so as requirement of Section 115 of the Crime & Disorder Act

in order to prevent and detect crime, nuisance and disorder and prevent re-offending. Additionally there are a number of specialist case management forums that monitor and manage perpetrators of domestic violence, abuse, gangs/organised crime groups and troubled/problematic families.

4.13 Example Snapshot: Summary of Local Case Management Forums (LCMFs) – September to November 2014:

- Average of 50 open cases per month across the LCMFs
- The number of cases varies across each LCMF, with City Centre currently showing the largest number
- 80% of all the perpetrators are male
- 5 families currently open on LCMFs
- As at November 2014 58% of cases involve drugs and/or alcohol, this compares to 94% on City Centre only
- Heroin, Cannabis and alcohol are the main drugs mentioned
- Mental health (only) features in 3 separate cases
- 8 tools and powers instigated across the 3 month period
- 17 referrals to treatment and support, as expected a high proportion of these are on City Centre LCMF (due to concentration of beggars/drinkers)
- 12 individuals failed to engage with support / services
- Proportion of cases show perpetrators engaging with some services but then not with others and/or dipping in and out of services
- Around 13% of perpetrators are engaging with some form of treatment or support

4.14 Hate Crime

Hate Crime Incidents – Calendar Years 2013 & 2014 - Incidents reported to Reporting Centres and to Coventry Police

Type of Hate	2013		2014	
	Total	%	Total	%
Disablist	16	5%	17	4%
Gypsy/Traveller	<5	0%	<5	0%
Homophobic	0	0%	<5	1%
Racist	276	84%	320	84%
Religious	7	2%	13	3%
Sexist	19	6%	23	6%
Transphobic	7	2%	<5	1%
Blank	<5	0%	<5	0%
Grand Total	327	-	379	-

*Please note figures are currently **DRAFT***

4.15 From 2013 to 2014 there has been an increase in the recording of hate crimes, overall incidents (Police & Reporting Centres) totalled 379 in 2014, which compares to 327 in 2013, an increase of 52 reported incidents, an increase of 16%. This may be due to increased victim confidence in reporting supported by partnership encouragement and campaigns to do so.

4.16 The majority of incidents across both years are Racist in nature, accounting for 84% per year. There has been an increase seen in Religious incidents, from 7 in 2013 to 13 in 2014, proportionally accounting for 2% (2013) and 3% (2014) of total hate crime. Religious incidents are predominately reported to the Police. Sexiest incidents recorded

show an increase of 5 reports. Other types of hate are low in number showing less than 5 incidents per grouping (Gypsy/Traveller, Homophobic and Transphobic).

4.17 Harm Reduction & Vulnerable Victims Forum – SNAPSHOT – Part 1: Hate Crime

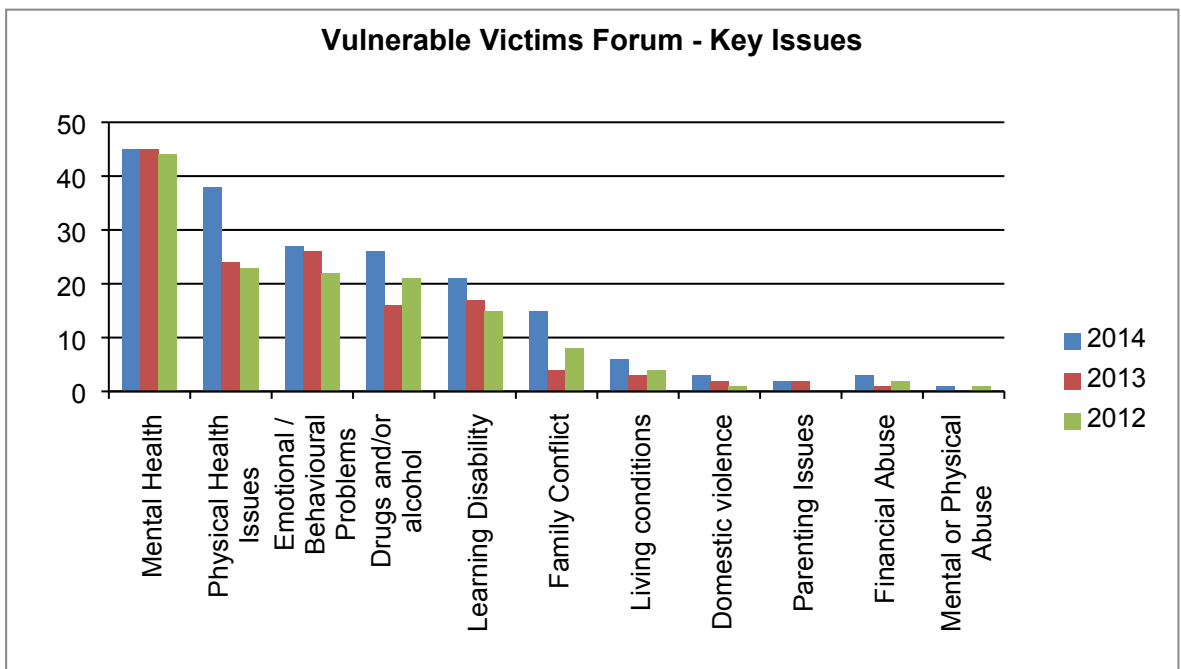
4.18 A snapshot 46 Open Cases from the minutes on 17/02/201 shows that 85% of cases were racist. Ethnic groupings most affected by hate crime were African 13 (28%) and Asian 12 (26%).

4.19 These open cases were mainly verbal in nature, 42 of the 46 incidents included verbal abuse. The verbal abuse was often alongside other behaviours i.e offensive gestures and damage to property

4.20 Harm Reduction & Vulnerable Victims Forum – SNAPSHOT – Part 2: Vulnerable Victims

4.21 The Vulnerable Victim Case Management Forum was established in 2011, 54 vulnerable victims were initially referred in the first year. 66 referrals were made in 2012 and 2013; 2014 has seen an increase in referrals to 75. Key issues for victims are complex and often involve multiple issues. The key issues are mental health, health (physical & emotional), drugs and alcohol, learning disability and family conflict.

4.22 Table – Vulnerable Victims Forum



4.23 In 2014, 60% of cases involved issues of mental health, 51% physical health issues, 36% emotional/behavioural problems, 35% drugs and/or alcohol, 28% learning disability, 20% family conflict and 8% living conditions. Other factors involved in cases include: domestic violence, parenting issues, financial abuse, and mental or physical abuse, although these are much smaller in number.

4.24 A broad range of agencies continue to make referrals to the forum including Police, Registered Providers (RPs, previously RSLs), Community Safety Team, Community Mental Health Teams, Coventry & Warwickshire Partnership Trust, UHCW, Mental Health Services, City Council Services and voluntary organisations/agencies.

4.25 Sex Workers Case Management Forum – *A snapshot of the recorded minutes of these meetings taken during January 2015 provides the following summary overview of cases*

4.26 Sex -workers are a complex group of individuals that are both vulnerable and often victims as well as being involved /perpetrating crime and nuisance. They are often exploited and subject of violence whilst causing concerns for the wider communities they live and work in by the very nature of the issue.

4.27 25 live cases being managed show that:-

- all are all female with an average age range of between 20 and 44 years, with the majority being in their mid 20s to early 30s.
- Accommodation appears to be a particular problem with a proportion of clients shown as living in B&B, friends/family, partner's family and NFA. Housing arrears (past and current) also feature
- around half of the sex workers have issues with drugs, alcohol and/or mental health. High vulnerability is highlighted in 2 cases.

4.28 20% of sex workers are shown as accessing treatment services (including rehab/detox), although overall engagement with services in general is patchy, engaging and de-engaging with the various services.

4.29 In addition, health issues identified include; miscarriages; Chest problems; Underweight; Taking medication for fits, high blood pressure; Self-harming; Substance misuse; Poor mental health and well-being and Anger & aggression.

4.30 A significant proportion of cases show domestic / sexual violence being involved as a result of the following circumstances:-

- Partner unpredictable and/or controlling and forces her to work
- Partner very aggressive and uses this to force out onto streets
- Working to fund partners drug habit
- Would like to end the relationship but too scared
- Behaviour out of control and the breakdown of relationships exacerbated by alcohol

4.31 Emergency marker(s) are put against addresses for cases of high risk DV as well as referrals to the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC). Services make every effort to engage with victims safely and discreetly. However approximately a third of cases show sex workers often leave an area or serve a custodial therefore there are frequent breaks in the engagement and work we do with them .

5. The Partnership has supported a number of initiatives/projects using funding provided by the PCC to address their priorities. Information on the following initiatives can be found in Appendix 2 of this report. The percentage of funding allocated to each is determined by costs associated with the delivery of the initiative/service.

- 1) Mental Health Triage
- 2) Coventry Criminal Justice Liaison and Diversion Trial Scheme (June 2014 – December 2014)
- 3) Work with female offenders and their families to prevent reoffending
- 4) Youth Offending out of court disposals, early intervention, substance misuse for young people and parenting services
- 5) Victim Support services for victims of serious crimes and harms

6. The Partnership's 2015-16 Priorities and Approach

- 6.1 The partnership plan for next year will continue to have a significant focus on the causes and drivers of the various crime and nuisance types. This then enables the Community Safety Partnership to link in with other partnerships in the City to achieve greater reductions in other areas of work that are also affected by the same causes, i.e. high unemployment, dependency on benefits, low education attainment, poor health and well-being and safeguarding.
- 6.2 The priorities for the forthcoming year have been identified in previous strategic assessments and therefore reinforces the need to continue to focus on such including: **harmful behaviour including Domestic and Sexual Violence, abuse & exploitation, Anti-social behaviour including public place environmental issues, crime and nuisance, Hate Crime, Robbery and Burglary**. Vulnerability that increases the risk of people becoming victims of these crimes is of particular importance to a partnership approach that seeks to minimise the risk of harm and protect those vulnerable people.
- 6.3 The West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner's (PCC) policing plan supports our local priorities and are many are indeed in a priority for the region and the West Midlands Police force also. However, the PCC has further identified the need to address **business and economic crime and speeding**. These will also be reflected in our local police, crime and community plan currently being developed for the new financial year. Additionally the local Partnership priorities and focus has and will continue to be influenced by what local people tell us is happening in their community. This is done in a number of different ways to maximise opportunities to capture their concerns and subsequently the partnership is looking to work smarter and in a more cost effective way to achieve this and provide services, resources and coordinated activity in doing so.
- 6.4 The challenge for the partnership is to ensure a healthy balance of action to prevent and address serious crimes with that of lower level issues that impact on a community's health and well-being. The role of the Board in achieving this healthy balance through their strategic decision making and scrutiny of the work of partnership sub groups is significant. The partnership also needs to develop better mechanisms for partnership deployment of resources and with less capacity to do so, requires less meetings but more focused and targeted action. The process for this is currently being developed with the involvement of Board members, community representatives and partnership agencies.
- 6.5 There are some challenges and opportunities on the horizon with diminishing resources in public services which makes it more important now than ever to work together to maximise collective resources, tools and powers, whilst empowering individuals to keep themselves, their families and communities safe. Community engagement and the mobilisation of community assets are fundamental to this new way of working. Additionally significant changes to organisations including West Midlands Police and National Probation Service and establishment of the Community Rehabilitation Service will require the partnership to adapt to new ways of working together. The use of social media and new technology will provide opportunities and support new ways of engaging and working with communities and one another.