

# EAST SUSSEX SAFER COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIPS PLAN 2020/23



## Contents

<b>Foreword</b> .....	3
<b>East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership</b> .....	4
<b>About this Plan</b> .....	5
<b>Challenges and Opportunities</b> .....	6
<b>Partnership Achievements 2017 to 2019</b> .....	7
<b>Community Engagement</b> .....	9
<b>Partnership Priorities 2020 to 2023</b> .....	11
<b>Preventing vulnerable adults, young people and our communities from being exploited by Serious and Organised criminals</b> .....	12
<b>Prevent and protect individuals from becoming victims of serious violence crime, .....</b>	15
<b>including knife crime</b> .....	15
<b>Prevent and protect individuals from the serious harm of domestic violence, abuse, rape, stalking and harassment and other harmful practices</b> .....	17
<b>Work Streams Identified Through Other Partnership Processes</b> .....	19
Preventing Violent Extremism.....	20
Drugs and Alcohol Misuse .....	21
Reducing Re-Offending .....	23
Anti-social behaviour and hate crime .....	26
Sussex Safer Roads Partnership.....	28
<b>District &amp; Borough Community Safety Plans</b> .....	29

## Foreword

The East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership (ESSCP) believes that crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour and reducing the fear of crime need to be tackled effectively through partnership working. Following some excellent partnership work in the last year it gives great pleasure to introduce the 2020/23 business plan. This further builds on the foundation work which has been completed by partners in 2019.

East Sussex remains one of the safest places to live in the south east - we recognise that many people who live here are vulnerable and need vital early intervention and prevention. We need to protect them from being targeted and exploited by others for personal, commercial or financial gain. Many have complex needs, which can relate to any one or a combination of substance misuse, accommodation and mental and physical health. It is therefore essential that we continue to ensure we are making the most efficient and effective use of resources across the East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership. Sustaining existing work within the partnership and developing new and existing relationships with partners is of importance to ensure that we are supporting vulnerable individuals within the community and helping them feel safe and confident in their everyday lives.

This plan sets out how partners will work together to deliver community safety priorities and what we are planning to do to improve the services to support local people for the future.

I am once again looking forward to working with all our partners to deliver the community safety priorities. I welcome the new challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. This plan will inevitably develop further as we progress, and the overall aim will be to make East Sussex an even safer place to live, work and visit.

Councillor Bill Bentley

Lead Member for Communities and Safety

## East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership

The East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership (ESSCP) is committed to: reducing and preventing crime, the fear of crime, anti-social behaviour, re-offending, domestic abuse, combating the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances and ensuring services are delivered effectively on a local level.

The ESSCP is the statutory County Strategy Group which provides strategic leadership for addressing community safety matters across East Sussex. The Partnership is accountable to the East Sussex County Council Scrutiny Committee and through the Lead Member for Adult Social Care. Agencies with a responsibility for community safety as required by [The Crime and Disorder Act 1998](#) to share information and work together to address crime and disorder. This includes publishing a plan for the reduction of crime and disorder in their area.

The ESSCP priorities are cross cutting and continue to be closely aligned with other plans that involve working with local communities and partners to keep East Sussex safe.

A Joint Partnership Protocol exists between the Partnership and [East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board](#), [East Sussex Local Safeguarding Children Board](#), [East Sussex Health and Wellbeing Board](#) and [East Sussex Children and Young People's Trust](#).

Members include statutory partners and local community safety partnerships which are accountable to their own scrutiny committees.



## About this Plan

The East Sussex Safer Communities Business Plan outlines the priorities and work streams for 2020/23 which have been selected by the East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership. It provides information on the priority areas and what partnership activity will look like for the year ahead. It also details work streams identified through other partnership processes and District and Borough community safety work streams. This is a three-year business plan, which is refreshed annually, and will be delivered within a multi-agency, partnership framework.

East Sussex, covers 660 square miles, has an estimated population of 549,557. There are many affluent areas as well as areas of significant deprivation. East Sussex has 19 lower super output areas among the top 10% of the most deprived in England. In order to successfully address issues of crime and anti-social behaviour we conduct an annual Strategic Assessment.

The Strategic Assessment is written in the context of other priority areas and policies that have been identified at both a national and local level. It is supported by factual data from across the partnerships, and feedback from residents and the voluntary community sector on the crime and community safety issues that matter.

Many of the priorities do not change substantially from year to year as they follow long term trends and whilst the strategic priorities will be established for a three year period we recognise that we may, however, need to re-focus our priorities in response to emerging or changing trends in crime and ASB, the impact of previous interventions, emerging external national or local factors, and learning gained through delivery of existing priorities. Such requirements will be identified via the annual refresh of the Strategic Assessment to ensure that work-plans and outcomes are appropriately delivered.

The ESSCP discusses areas identified as those causing our communities the greatest harm at a development morning in July 2019. The outcomes helped to identify strategic priorities for the period 2020/23, and are listed on page 10 of this plan.

## Challenges and Opportunities

The priorities do not change substantially from year to year as they follow long term trends and whilst our strategic priorities will be established for a three-year period, we recognise that we may need to re-focus priorities in response to emerging or trends. It is important that we keep up-to-date with national strategies and policies ([Appendix C](#)) and other challenges or changes when selecting priorities. There are several challenges and opportunities on the horizon which could impact on partnership working over the coming years and these include:

- The development of technology which will transform the future crime landscape; cyber-crime continues to rise in scale and complexity, affecting essential services, businesses and private individuals alike.
- Political and economic pressures and instability will continue to drive significant levels of legal and illegal migration, regionally and globally.
- The Government announcement, in October 2019, to undertake a formal review of serious and organised crime with a report and recommendations due in Spring 2020. The review will look to identify ways of bolstering the response to threats such as county lines, people trafficking, drugs, child sexual exploitation, fraud and illicit finance.
- A new duty to tackle serious violent crime; new laws will require schools, police, councils and health authorities to work together to prevent serious crime.
- The rollout of Dovetail (Changes to Channel panels) and new Channel Guidance: changing the way support is coordinated at a local level.
- The rollout of the recommendations from the independent [review of the Modern Slavery Act 2015](#).
- Government proposals to re-unify the [National Probation Service](#) case management function. The Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRC's) will no longer exist, all cases will be managed by the National Probation Service from June 2021.
- The [Domestic Abuse Bill](#) transforming the approach of all agencies to victims of domestic abuse.
- Creation of duty of care on online platforms supported by an independent regulator.

## Partnership Achievements 2017 to 2019

There have been many partnership achievements during the lifetime of the 2017 to 2020 plan.

- The launch of the [East Sussex Against Scams Partnership](#) with over 100 organisations committed to the fight against fraud, scams and improving protection and prevention for East Sussex residents.
- Think Protect Connect - a digital resilience programme delivered to over 5,000 young people in East Sussex.
- The 'Relationships Programme' delivered to over 1,000 pupils which helps build positive, enjoyable, respectful and non-exploitative relationships and staying safe both on and offline
- Launched and published The East Sussex Stay Safe Directory for schools and colleges which provides a variety of programmes and workshops which are currently being offered by a range of organisations and focus on different strands of community safety, personal safety and online safety.
- The Modern Slavery Network has successfully established links with National and Regional Networks such as the Human Trafficking Foundation National Modern Slavery Co-ordinators Network, the Police and Crime Commissioner national network on Modern Slavery, and the South East Strategic Partnership for Migration in order to learn more about best practice and to gain a more holistic view of work around modern slavery.
- Working in partnership with the [Safeguarding Adults Board](#) and [Stop the Traffik](#) - Modern Slavery Single Point of Contact First Responder training for local authorities delivered to 70 key staff.
- During anti-slavery week in 2019 the award-winning production of 'My Mind is Free' performed by the Rah Rah Theatre Company to over 80 local residents.
- The Communities Against Exploitation Campaign has provided information and advice on how to spot exploitation and how to report it at 11 engagement events in the Rother area. Schools/colleges/businesses/the public/local organisations and local residents have participated in as well as supported this campaign.
- Over 300 training and awareness raising sessions delivered to organisations within the county, including schools, staff, partners and the wider community on exploitation, Prevent, county lines, modern slavery and fraud/scams.

- Launch of the new East Sussex Adult Drug and Alcohol Service in 2019 - a free dedicated drug and alcohol community recovery service which has been remodelled following feedback from both stakeholders and service users.
- A Drug Related Death Working group to learn from drug related deaths.
- An East Sussex Drug and Alcohol Innovation Fund made available for pioneering work and 5 projects commissioned, with three of these embedding the ethos of Wellness Recovery Action Planning into the daily lives of service users, staff and volunteers.
- The South Coast User Forum Conference held in 2018 at the De La War Pavilion, Bexhill -this event combined recovery stories, dramatic and musical performances and a display of art work which highlighted the many different paths to recovery.
- Sussex was one of 6 regions across the country in 2018 to be successful in gaining a grant of almost £194,000 over three years from the Ministry Of Justice Whole System Approach for Female Offenders Funding.
- A new Strategic Framework for Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls is in place.
- **1273** medium and high-risk domestic abuse victims supported by CGL at The Portal
- A current MARAC Hub model pilot- which may lead to a permanent change in the way that MARAC cases are assessed.
- Current recommissioning programme for specialist services for domestic abuse, sexual violence and abuse, Stalking and Harassment and Refuge/accommodation based domestic abuse services. (New services will start on the 1st October 2020).
- Development of a multi-agency Victims Hub proposal- seeking to improve outcomes for victims through clearer service pathways; operating in a trauma informed way.
- Multi-agency delivered course on Coercion and Control developed and delivered in East Sussex.

## Community Engagement

Central to planning community safety activity in East Sussex is how we engage and listen to the concerns of our communities, and through consultation with local communities we can hear their concerns and views along with what action they would like to happen in order to improve local areas. We will be continuing to develop the active involvement of the wider community in the work of the partnership. An example of this over the past year has been the launch of the Communities Against Exploitation campaign, which raises awareness of emerging crime types and equips the community with the latest preventative measures.

The [East Sussex Against Scams Partnership \(ESASP\)](#) with over 100 member organisations committed to the charter's three key aims: raising awareness and de-stigmatising scams, prevention and protection and identification and recording. We hold an annual engagement event with charter partners that include a cross-section of members from private businesses, voluntary and public sector.

Sussex Police Prevention Support and Engagement Officers continue to support the Sussex Police Prevention teams with engagement within our communities This includes setting up 'Mobile Police Stations' where advice can be given to members of the public and providing them with the opportunity to report crimes. This also provides an opportunity to gather intelligence in our communities. Other events throughout the year include Operation Sceptre, Eastbourne 999, Rural Crime Prevention days and Charity events.

An East Sussex Reputation Tracker Survey is carried out annually to gather information from a cross section of 1,000 East Sussex residents. The survey asks residents to select three community safety priorities and three types of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) that they feel are most important for the ESSCP to tackle. These results are used to inform our strategic assessment and in selecting the priorities.

## Communications

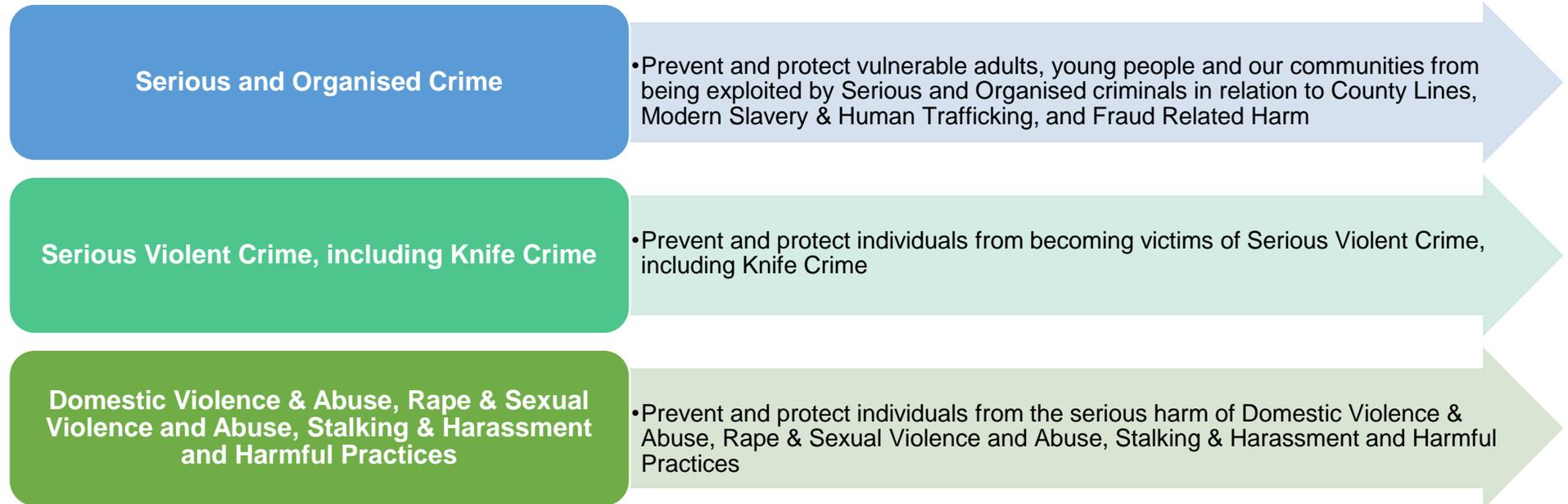
Communication is important in delivering community safety messages and the work of the partnership. We engage effectively with partners around their communication plans and messaging in order to expand our reach. Our communication methods include:

- A newsletter that highlights the work the Partnership undertakes. This newsletter is distributed to over 2,500 residents and partner representatives.
- A newly designed [website](#) which provides information on our community safety priority areas, including signposting and information for professionals and communities.

- The Safer Communities [Twitter](#) account continues to grow, with 1,600+ followers. We use this to highlight specific awareness campaigns; community safety related news items, as well as promoting local events.

## Partnership Priorities 2020 to 2023

The East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership has agreed the following priorities for 2020/23:



In addition to these priorities and work streams a cross cutting theme was identified:

- Online safety, social media, the internet and mobile phones - Raise awareness of online safety and encourage young people to develop a positive and healthy relationship with social media, the internet and mobile phones.

The indicators to which performance is monitored on these priority areas can be found in [Appendix A](#)

# Preventing vulnerable adults, young people and our communities from being exploited by Serious and Organised criminals

## County Lines, Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking and Fraud Related Harm

### The local picture

**County Lines** - typically involves a gang from a large urban area travelling to smaller locations (such as a county or coastal town) to sell class A drugs. County lines can be associated to serious violence, murders and Organised Crime Groups.

There are currently some 90 'deal lines' in operation in Sussex at any one time, often overlapping with other force areas, but that figure fluctuates on a regular basis. Work to tackle this issue is coordinated by the [East Sussex Multi Agency Child Exploitation Group \(MACE\)](#) and the [East Sussex Partnership Violence Reduction Unit and Serious Organised Crime meeting](#), which assesses the countywide risk of people being drawn into serious organised crime.

There has been a significant increase in the number of high-risk children discussed at MACE during 2018/19 compared to the previous year, which coincides with the wider focus of the group on all forms of child exploitation. On average, 23 young people were considered to be at high risk to child exploitation each quarter during 2018/19, compared to an average of 13 during 2017/18.

In the 6 months to April 2019, 49 young people had been discussed at the MACE Group. The latest report available shows that of this cohort they were predominately aged 15 to 16, male and were subject to criminal exploitation. Almost a quarter were Not in Education Employment or Training (NEET). In September 2019, there were 21 young people open on the MACE list. Of these 6 (29%) were rated as high-risk.

The MACE Strategic Group provides oversight of children who are reported missing. In the 6 months to September 2019, there were 600 notifications of missing episodes in East Sussex, an increase of 30% compared to the previous year. This cohort is also often known to other services and there is a concern that going missing increases the risk of sexual or criminal exploitation.

**Modern Slavery & Human trafficking** - during 2018, Sussex Police recorded 170 Crimes relating to offences within the [Modern Slavery Act](#), 40 of which related to East Sussex. During 2019, 45 have been reported in East Sussex and 135 in Sussex as a whole - but national changes to recording rules mean the amount is likely to be significantly higher.

Between January and March 2019, there were 18 potential victims within the Sussex area referred to the [National Referral Mechanism \(NRM\)](#). The referring agency was Sussex Police (17) and East Sussex Local Authority (1). This is an 80% increase on the same 3-month period in 2018 when there were 10 potential victims. The significant rise is likely due to the increase in NRM referrals relating to County Lines. Referrals for minors accounted for 76% of all potential victims.

Of the 18 victims, labour exploitation most recorded (76% of all referrals and all males). There were 4 referrals of sexual exploitation (all females). Nationals from the UK accounted for 76% of potential victims and Albanian nationals 24%.

East Sussex partners continue to contribute to the [Discovery](#) project, a multi-agency partnership which includes district and borough councils and other agencies aimed to protect people from modern slavery and take action against those responsible for it.

**Fraud Related Harm** – fraud accounts for over 50% of all reported crime and it is believed that only 20% of fraud is reported to the police. 76% of all fraud in Surrey and Sussex is cyber-enabled, with individuals most frequently report advanced fee fraud, online shopping and auctions and computer software service fraud. The greatest financial loss is through other financial investments and doorstep crime.

[Operation Signature](#) is the Sussex Police process to identify and support vulnerable victims of fraud within Sussex. In the 12 months to September 2019, there were a total of **371** reports to Operation Signature in East Sussex, an increase of 36% when compared to the previous 6-month period.

Between April 2019 and September 2019, there were **53** reports of Doorstep Crime in East Sussex to Trading Standards. This is a 20.5% increase on the same 6 months in the previous year.

## Partnership plans

- Our successful Communities Against Exploitation Campaign<sup>1</sup> will be expanding to other areas in East Sussex which will continue to raise awareness of County Lines and other types of exploitation within our communities. We will do this work in collaboration with key partners including the Discovery Project.
- The 'Relationships' programme will continue to be delivered within Primary Schools. The programme aims to build resilience and recognise when and how to ask for help and teaches basic techniques for resisting pressure to do something dangerous, unhealthy or which makes young people uncomfortable.
- We will continue to work with our partners and contribute to wider community prevention efforts through the Multi Agency Child Exploitation Group, Sussex Police and Schools to raise awareness of County Lines in order to better protect those who are vulnerable to exploitation. This will include contributing to Contextual Safeguarding system interventions directed at the wider context in which harm takes place (locations, schools or peer-groups), outside of the family environment. Because they address the contextual factors that influence harm in a location, these types of interventions will hopefully reduce the risk and improve the safety of these contexts for other young people.
- The partnership will support and contribute towards the development and implementation of the East Sussex Modern Slavery Community Action Plan in partnership with Stop the Traffik, Discovery and local partner organisations.
- By strengthening our countywide Modern Slavery Single Point of Contact network, we will be continuing to support these professionals with new and updated information/resources and ongoing support ensuring our response to recognising and managing Modern Slavery cases is effective.
- The partnership will hold an annual ESASP Charter Partner event in 2020 to share key developments crucial in the fight against scams and further develop our communications strategy to maximise output to the community, charter partners and professionals regarding key scam prevention messages.
- We will continue to provide strategic support to develop digital safety in the county to prevent cyber enabled fraud.
- The Sussex Police Volunteer Fraud Prevention programme will be developing a wider programme of Fraud Awareness Events for victims and public. Through the provision of protective advice packages and via email or letter- 24 volunteers have been recruited across Sussex to work from local Police stations.

---

<sup>1</sup> Communities Against Exploitation is to raise awareness of emerging crime types and equip the community with the latest preventative measures.

## Prevent and protect individuals from becoming victims of serious violence crime, including knife crime

### The local picture

In the 12 months to December 2019, in East Sussex, there were:

- **19,041** incidents of Violent Crimes<sup>2</sup>. An increase of +12.2% when compared to 2018.
- Almost half (48.9%) of all Violent Crime occurred in a Public Place.
- **17,270** incidents of Violence Against the Person. An increase of 1,986 (13%).
- **340** incidents of Serious Violent Crimes, an increase of 33 (+10.7%) on the previous 12 months. Serious Violence<sup>3</sup> has increased by +32% in the last 3 years in East Sussex.
- **197** incidents of Serious Knife Crime<sup>4</sup>. An increase of 78 (+65.5%).
- **31** incidents of Gun Crime. An increase of 13 (+72.2%)

In April 2018 the government published its [Serious Violence Strategy](#) in response to increases in knife crime, gun crime and homicide across England. Sussex was identified, by the Home Office, as being disproportionately affected by knife related hospital admissions. The county, via the [Sussex Police Crime Commissioner \(PCC\)](#) was allocated funding, in 2019m to establish 'Violence Reduction Units' (VRUs) to assist in reducing this threat and trend. This 'VRU' model is based on success in the Glasgow and Cardiff areas in tackling these issues.

The [East Sussex Violence Reduction Unit](#) has been established to assess the countywide risk of people being drawn into serious violence. It has developed an action plan to manage the threats, risks and vulnerabilities to individuals and communities. It is made up of community safety partner agencies including education.

---

<sup>2</sup>Sussex Police CSP Performance report - January 2018 to December 2019 (Violence against the Person, Possession of weapons, Public Order, Sexual offences)

<sup>3</sup>Sussex Police CSP Performance report - January 2018 to December 2019 (Murder, attempted murder, death or serious injury by unlawful driving, violence with injury)

<sup>4</sup> Where a sharp instrument was used (with the introduction of the new crime system, glass is included which may or may not be 'sharp')

## Partnership plans

- A county serious violent crime problem profile has been completed, identifying the extent of serious violent crime in East Sussex. The profile takes a public health approach<sup>5</sup> to understand what the problem of serious violent crime is, and to identify the risk and protective factors which may associate individuals with serious violent crime. Recommendations from this analysis are used to target and plan relevant prevention, intervention and enforcement activities. Continued Home Office funding for 2020/21 will continue to develop the partnership with the aims of: protecting and educating young people, mitigating the impact of serious violence on our communities, supporting victims and strengthening our communities and targeting lawbreakers.
- Local and national initiatives such as [Operation Sceptre](#) the national campaign which looks to tackle the dangers that knife crime poses by educating various audiences and raising awareness, through operational work and campaign activities, will be delivered in partnership.
- The East Sussex VRU development plan will be implemented.

---

<sup>5</sup> [https://www.who.int/violenceprevention/approach/public\\_health/en/](https://www.who.int/violenceprevention/approach/public_health/en/)

## Prevent and protect individuals from the serious harm of domestic violence, abuse, rape, stalking and harassment and other harmful practices

### The local picture

Reported incidents of domestic violence and abuse, rape and sexual violence, stalking and harassment and harmful practices (such as forced marriage, honour-based violence and female genital mutilation) continue to increase in East Sussex.

- **9,854** reports of domestic abuse-related incidents and crimes were recorded in the year up to the end of March 2019. **5,893** of these reports were crimes. There were 479 charges made.
- Ongoing increases in reporting are thought to be linked to an increase in domestic abuse-related incidents coming to the attention of the police. Improvements in crime recording practices and an increased willingness of victims to come forward have also contributed. This increase is also influenced by a greater awareness of domestic abuse, perhaps supported by media interest in the [Government's Domestic Abuse Bill](#) and high-profile cases reported in the news. Recognition of coercion and control is also having an impact on the numbers reporting crimes and incidents.
- **794** high risk cases discussed in East Sussex at the two Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC). This represented an increase of 73 cases since 2015. Of the 794 cases, there were **179** repeat victims (22.5%) and a total of **1,255** children living in the household of victims.
- **1,345** reports of Sexual Offences in East Sussex. **76** charges were made.
- In 2018 there were **4** homicides in East Sussex where the victim's death was suspected to have been caused by domestic violence and abuse, 3 of which are subject to a '[Domestic Homicide Review](#)' (DHR). There were a total of 454 domestic homicides recorded by the police in England and Wales between April 2013 and March 2016.
- In East Sussex, in the 12 months to September 2018, Sussex Police received **14** Right to Know applications and **27** Right to Ask applications through [Clare's Law](#).

A new strategic framework has been developed for Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls. The strategic framework is supported Sussex-wide and highlights the following priorities:

- More Prevention and Early Intervention
- High Quality Trauma Informed Service Pathways
- Strengthened Response to Perpetrators
- Robust Partnership Working at both Strategic and Operational level

### Partnership plans

- Implement the Strategy Delivery Plan for East Sussex including the local response to the Government's Domestic Abuse Bill, and new duty on the provision of accommodation based domestic abuse support.
- Complete the recommissioning of specialist Domestic Abuse, Rape and Sexual Violence and Abuse, Domestic Abuse Refuge/Accommodation Based Support, and Stalking and Harassment Services
- Implement the new MARAC operating model
- Continue to develop multi-agency training and awareness, including specialist support service providers. There will be an ongoing commitment to improve general awareness of the signs of, and how to support someone experiencing Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse (including Stalking and Harassment and Harmful Practices).
- Develop and improve a wider stakeholder and community network to support awareness raising and response.

## Work Streams Identified Through Other Partnership Processes



## Preventing Violent Extremism

Preventing violent extremism through education & training and supporting individuals through the Channel programme

### The local picture

Prevent is part of the national counter-terrorism strategy and aims to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism and extremism.

East Sussex continues to be a low risk area for violent extremism compared to other areas of the UK. The [East Sussex Prevent Board](#) continues to manage risk, threat and vulnerability as outlined in the annual [Counter Terrorism Local Profile \(CTLP\)](#). The CTLP identifies the risks within the county and region. The majority of referrals in East Sussex are from schools/colleges with mental health, Autism Spectrum Disorder (diagnosed/undiagnosed) and young males. For this reason our work in schools continues to be delivered, which includes delivering challenging extremism assemblies to over 4,000 pupils and providing Prevent training sessions for schools and other organisations.

[East Sussex Channel Panel](#) has a multi-agency membership and meets regularly to assess the risk and decide whether the person is vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. The Channel panel develops the most appropriate support plan for the individual concerned.

### Partnership plans

- Partnering with Sussex University to share knowledge, promote best practice and recognise some of the successful developments which have taken place at a local level to safeguard and support individuals and communities.
- Participating in a multi-agency training event, enabling key staff to respond in real time to both immediate critical pressured events and also to consider their strategic impact on both their institution and the public.
- Primary School pupils continue to participate in the 'Relationships' programme which includes themes on the values that Britain supports, , racism, hate crime and the development of extreme views. Secondary /FE students will have the continued offer of Challenging Extremism Assemblies and discussion groups.

## Drugs and Alcohol Misuse

Helping people recover from Drugs and Alcohol misuse and preventing premature death

### The local picture

Drug and alcohol related harm is a complex issue which has a wide range of impacts on individuals, families and communities. It is concentrated in the centre of Eastbourne and Hastings but there are also significant pockets of in other parts of East Sussex.

There is a dedicated service for those U19 who are affected by drug and alcohol misuse ( [the under 19's service ESCC](#)). Workers are co-located with other relevant services (e.g. Youth Offending Team) to provide a holistic person-centred approach. This service demonstrates effective engagement with users. There is a very low rate of representation to adult services.

The treatment population for adults currently stands at 1397. The breakdown for different areas of treatment is as follows:

- Opiates – 1008
- Non – opiates – 150
- Alcohol – 239

The completion rates for those in formal treatment and do not represent to services within six months are as follows:

Area of Treatment	Local rate of completion/representation	National average
	6.2%	5.8%
	35.2%	34.4%
	37.8%	38.2%

Figures show, rates are slightly above the national average for opiates and slightly below for non-opiates and alcohol.

It has been identified that there is also significant levels of unmet need in certain rural areas. It is estimated that around 50% of those using opiates problematically and around 80% of those drinking at dependent levels are not receiving specialist treatment.

In order to support and sustain recovery, a number of initiatives have been funded, these include support to sustain the recovery of the street community and support for carers. These initiatives are effective in sustaining recovery, with 83% of individuals stating they can manage more independently as a result of using the service and 91% explaining they feel more confident as a result of using the service.

Historically, there are clear links between substance misuse and deprivation. This is currently reflected by the higher numbers of those in the treatment population which are from the wards in the county with the highest levels of deprivation. The largest segment of the treatment population is still those seeking support for opiate misuse. There is an increased use of dependence forming medication prescribed by primary care. There is also an increase in those drinking at dependent levels. Many of the members of these groups do not fit traditional drug and alcohol misusing profiles. The model of service delivery will need to be responsive to meeting the needs of these groups.

### Partnership plans

- Development of new alcohol strategy to address alcohol related harm
- East Sussex Alcohol Partnership to continue with work driven by the new strategy
- Development of project to address recreational use of cocaine
- Pilot project to assess impact of naloxone within Rough Sleepers Initiative
- A development of co-ordinated communications plan to ensure a cohesive approach to drug and alcohol misuse

## Reducing Re-Offending

Assist in the implementation of the Offender Management Strategies through our joint work at the Reducing Re-Offending Sub Group of the Surrey Sussex Criminal Justice Board

### The local picture

- In East Sussex, in the 12 months to December 2019, there were **37,886** reported incidents of crime. This was an increase of 3,564 (+10.4%) compared to 2018. This increase was comparable with West Sussex (+9.8%) and Brighton & Hove (+11.2%). Nearly all crime types recorded showed an increase when compared to the previous year. Some of the more noticeable increases were in Theft & Handling (+11.3%), Serious Acquisitive Crime (+17.5%), Business Crime (+9.5%), Domestic Abuse Crime (+14.6%), Violence Against the Person (+13%), Violent Crime (+12.2%) and Drug Possession (+23.7%).
- The Home Office estimates that nationally 0.5% of offenders commit 10% of offences; in addition, 10% of offenders commit 50% of offences. A significant proportion of crime is committed by a relatively small group of persistent or prolific offenders who cause harm and distress to individuals and to our communities.
- [Integrated Offender Management \(IOM\)](#) brings a cross-agency response to manage the small number of offenders who cause a disproportionate amount of crime. Historically, the IOM Sussex cohort consists of serious acquisitive crime offenders. From May 2017 offenders, regardless of offence type, who are having the most impact on our local communities will be considered for offender management arrangements by local IOM teams. This means the scheme will now manage a wider cohort of offenders including; Domestic Violence Perpetrators, [Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements](#), Serious Organised Crime and Child Sexual Exploitation.
- [Checkpoint](#) is an early intervention scheme to find a new avenue to reduce reoffending. It was launched in 2020 and will work in partnership with statutory and third sector organisations to deliver the [Ministry of Justice's Whole System Approach](#) to reduce reoffending by supporting diversion schemes, supporting offenders to make positive life choices to prevent reoffending and protect future victims from crime.
- [Sussex Criminal Justice Board \(SCJB\)](#) was established in 2003 to provide a structure for strategic leaders to meet, discuss and agree measures to improve the Criminal Justice System for the public.

- In East Sussex young offenders are managed by the [East Sussex Youth Offending Team](#). Children between 10 and 17 can be arrested and taken to court if they commit a crime. They are treated differently from adults and are dealt with by youth courts, given different sentences and sent to special secure centres for young people, not adult prisons.

Homeless ex-prisoners are significantly more likely to reoffend than those with accommodation. Research by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) showed that 79% of those who were previously homeless went on to be convicted in the first year after being released<sup>6</sup>.

In December 2017 the total prison population in the UK was 84,7462. Approximately 66,000 leave prison each year and 15% of men and 13% of women in prisons listed 'no fixed abode' as their accommodation status when leaving prison. (Prison population figures (December 2017).

Without housing ex-prisoners are unable to register with a GP, it's often difficult for them to seek employment or apply for benefits, these additional barriers all increase the risk of re-offending. Stable accommodation can reduce the risk of re-offending by 20%<sup>7</sup>.

The [Homelessness Reduction Act 2018](#) gave prison and probation services a duty to refer prison leavers to local authorities if they are at risk of homelessness.

## Partnership plans

It is nationally recognised that early intervention and targeted prevention provides better outcomes for individuals and reduces costs to authorities. In 2019 the ESSCP established an accommodation for prison leaver's short life group, where the wider issues in terms of homelessness and prison leavers were discussed. The group has identified a need for current systems to change as multiple prison leavers continue to be homeless or no fixed abode on discharge, many of whom are repeat presentations.

The group have identified a number of work streams that would assist in addressing this issue and these include:

- Developing the evidence base on what happens to prison leavers with district and boroughs, including the costs associated with this;

---

<sup>6</sup> [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/278806/homelessness-reoffending-prisoners.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/278806/homelessness-reoffending-prisoners.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> Reducing re-offending by ex-prisoners, ICPS, 2002, P94

- Developing a Criminal Justice Specialist Role within the Rough Sleepers Initiative Multi-Disciplinary Team;
- Placing a Housing Options Officers in Lewes and Ford Prison;
- Developing bespoke accommodation units for people on the IOM program (this could be a single house or smaller dispersed units);
- Providing rapid rehousing support workers for people who are released from prison; and
- Developing move on accommodation pathways.

## Anti-social behaviour and hate crime

Raise awareness and identify hotspots, patterns and repeat victims of Anti-social behaviour and hate crime within the community, and work with key partners to improve and manage partnership responses

### The local picture

The [CPS hate crime annual report](#), published in October 2019, shows that Sussex is one of only four police force areas in the country, where defendants are convicted in more than nine out of ten cases. Sussex is second in the country for convictions on racially and religiously aggravated hate crime, with a 92.9% conviction rate. The figures show that the volume of homophobic and transphobic hate crime dealt with by prosecutors in Sussex fell slightly from 45 in 2017-18 to 42 in 2018-19. Disability hostility crime still remains low, with just 10 cases dealt with by the CPS in Sussex in 2018-19.

In East Sussex in the 12 months to December 2019<sup>8</sup>, there were:

- **9,000** (-3.8%) reported incidents of Nuisance ASB
- **971** (-18.5%) reported incidents of Personal ASB
- **594** (+3.7%) reported incidents of Environmental ASB

In East Sussex, Sussex Police Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and Hate Crime Coordinators in the Safer East Sussex Team, act as the Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for police officers, police staff and partner agencies and contribute to the Sussex Hate Crime Action Plan by:

- Increasing the reporting of hate crime, through improving the reporting process, encouraging the use of third party reporting and working with groups who may under-report
- Preventing hate crime by challenging the beliefs and attitudes that can underlie such crimes
- Responding to hate crime in our communities with the aim of reducing the number of hate crime incidents.

---

<sup>8</sup> Sussex Police Community Safety Partnership - by crime type Version 3.2 - Report Period - January 2018 to December 2019

- Improving support for the victims of hate crime.
- Building our understanding of hate crime through improved data, including the disaggregation of hate crimes records by religion.

Underpinning the Sussex Hate Crime Action Plan are two key themes working in partnership with communities and joining up work across the hate crime strands to ensure that best practice in tackling hate crime is understood and drawn upon in all our work.

Anti-social behaviour<sup>9</sup> (ASB) is a broad term used to describe the day-to-day incidents of crime, nuisance and disorder that make many people's lives a misery – from litter and vandalism, to public drunkenness or aggressive dogs, to noisy or abusive neighbours.

The ASB and Hate Crime Coordinators continue to work closely with key partners to ensure ASB and hate crime is accurately recorded as well as ensuring High and Medium risk ASB and hate crime cases and those involving repeat victims are identified and problem solved effectively with partners. This process is undertaken through the multi-agency risk assessment conference process for medium and high risk victims.

Such a wide range of behaviours means that responsibility for dealing with anti-social behaviour is shared between a number of agencies, particularly the police, local councils and social landlords. Please see the District and Borough Overviews in this document for localised ASB plans.

---

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/anti-social-behaviour-crime-and-police-bill>

## Sussex Safer Roads Partnership

Working to reduce road casualties across Sussex with education, enforcement and engineering.

The [Sussex Safer Roads Partnership](#) brings together teams from Sussex Police, East and West Sussex County Councils, East and West Sussex Fire and Rescue Services, Brighton and Hove City Council and Highways England. The partnership aims to create a safer environment for all road users, significantly reduce life-changing injuries and eliminate fatalities.

Using the wealth of knowledge and experience within the partnership, they provide advice and support to all road users across Sussex. They refine and develop strategies to promote road safety and to encourage everyone to consider how they use the roads and how everyone can become safer. Recommendations and guidance are offered to urge everyone to share the roads and to foster an attitude of safety for all on our roads.

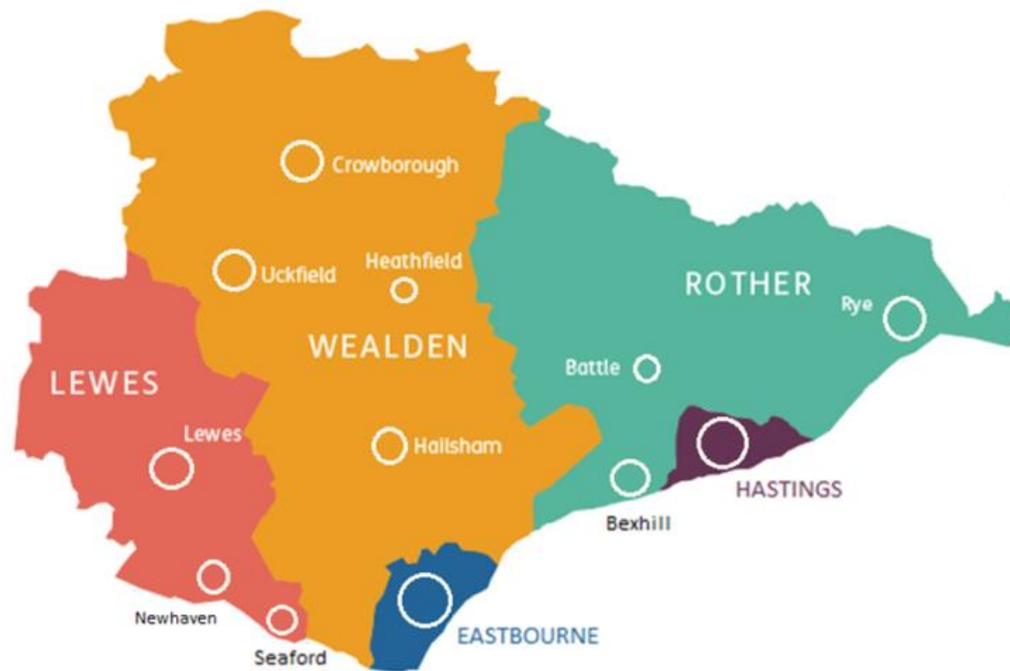
There are still too many collisions in Sussex and some of these can be avoided. Through a range of campaigns and initiatives, the partnership raise awareness of; laws, key messages, preventative measures, information and guidance to create safer roads for all.

For plans in relation to road safety please see the District and Borough Community Safety Plans. These include information and work of on the Wealden, Lewes and Eastbourne Road Safety Action Group and the Hasting & Rother Roads Group.

## District & Borough Community Safety Plans

There are four local Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) in East Sussex:

- Safer Wealden Partnership
- Eastbourne and Lewes Community Safety Partnership
- Safer Hastings Partnership
- Safer Rother Partnership



## Safer Wealden Partnership

The priorities for the year 2020/21 remain the same as the previous year. They have been informed from several sources: The views of residents have been taken into account, these have been collected in a variety of local surveys; what the local crime data informs the partnership about what is happening in the district; and insights from people in this area of work.

It is important that the partnership reflect in its priorities, what all partners working together can bring to an issue, rather than focussing on a list of crime types. These priorities create a more dynamic working environment and partnership, which has the ability to focus on any crime type or issues which emerge as posing a threat, risk or harm to the communities we represent. In addition it gives the Partnership more flexibility with the projects it can consider funding to support the many local communities across the district.

The one exception to this flexible approach is road safety as it is of major concern to so many of the parishes and towns across the district. Wealden has the worst serious collision record in the County and that is why it is a priority in its own right.

The partnership is keen to continue to work to protect young people and build a constructive relationship with them. Part of this work will be to have a continuing conversation with young people to gain insight about the possible reasons for getting involved in crime and also importantly why the vast majority do not get involved. Hopefully this will improve knowledge about this important topic and provide pointers as to the way forward.

**Working to ensure local people feel safe and secure and reducing the fear of crime**

**Taking a dynamic and flexible approach to emerging threats and rising crime types**

**Working together to reduce the number of people killed or injured on Wealden's roads and to improve road safety awareness**

**Developing an engagement strategy relating to the protection of young people from serious crime**

## Partnership achievements

The Partnership has continued to work hard for the communities we serve to reduce crime and the fear of crime. As a partnership we are intelligence led and we also, wherever possible, evaluate our projects and interventions to ensure they make a difference and represent a good return on investment.

We have joined up with the Lewes and Eastbourne areas on the subject of plans to improve road safety and road safety awareness. The Wealden, Lewes and Eastbourne Road Safety Action Group have gone from strength to strength and now include members from the Kent Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance Trust and Network Rail.

The group has championed several partnership projects aimed at making the areas roads safer. A bid has been made to the Road Safety Trust to take the 'We're keeping an eye on you' project across the County and for this we have teamed up with the Hastings and Rother Road Safety Action Group.

The Action group has continued to see the number of 'Community Speedwatch' groups in the district increase steadily over the year. The project works with local volunteers to monitor the speed of vehicles in an area, those drivers / riders caught exceeding the speed limit are referred to 'Operation Crackdown' and they receive an appropriate warning letter from Sussex Police about their driving behaviour.

Many successful projects have been carried out directly by partners or funded by the Safer Wealden Partnership to improve community safety and increase awareness of the issues over the year. These projects have included:

- The Friday Night Project sponsored by Hailsham Town Council provides diversionary activities for young people in the Hailsham area on Friday evenings and is aimed at reducing anti-social behaviour in the town. Increased funding has also permitted the opening of the project of other nights too and has permitted young people from the neighbouring Heathfield area to participate in some of the planned activities too.
- The partnership has funded a number of outreach youth work sessions, which the police can deploy into areas where there is youth related anti-social behaviour.

- Operation Blitz continues to be funded. It continues to provide a dedicated, visible and accessible policing resource for tackling nuisance behaviour and low level crime across the Wealden area at weekends and on specific occasions such as Halloween and Bonfire Night.
- The very successful Safety in Action project organised by [East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service](#) has been supported. This project provides important personal and community safety advice to young people.
- A number of other valuable youth related projects have been supported including 'Clued-Up' in Crowborough, Uckfield Youth Club and Heathfield works.
- The Partnership has funded 'Mediation Plus' which helps to resolve anti-social behaviour related neighbourly disputes.

### Partnership plans

- Continue to work hard for the communities we serve to reduce crime and the fear of crime and deliver on our priorities.
- Be intelligence led to gain insights from crime data and other sources to improve the effectiveness of any interventions. We will also use these insights to help predict local threats and develop interventions and projects to tackle them.
- Many of the projects highlighted above will continue to be developed during the year ahead.

## Eastbourne and Lewes Community Safety Partnership

### What are the Eastbourne priorities and why?

- **Street Communities** – Anti-social behaviour associated with street communities in the town remains a source of concern for Eastbourne residents, businesses and visitors. Our new Eastbourne and Lewes Street Community Strategy recognises that people living and sleeping on our streets are amongst the most vulnerable in our community. We will work closely with the new Eastbourne and Lewes Street Communities Partnership to ensure we address the issues presented by street communities in an effective way whilst ensuring appropriate services are in place which meet their needs and reduce the need to be on the streets.
- **Anti-Social Behaviour** – Anti-social behaviour remains a key priority for residents of Eastbourne adversely affecting their quality of life. Young people involved in ASB are being targeted by criminal gangs and are particularly vulnerable to being drawn into criminal activity. We will work with Children’s Services, the police and other partners to develop specific projects to reduce anti-social behaviour amongst young people and protect them from the risk of serious exploitation.
- With the nature of crime continually changing we need to support our most vulnerable residents from new and emerging threats which they may be particularly at risk of falling prey to. We will continue to respond proactively **to Emerging Threats and Priorities Based on Threat, Risk and Harm**. We are concerned by the growth of violent crime and organised crime and, in particular, the impact of this on young people, particularly in relation to drugs. In partnership with members of the Eastbourne Youth Partnership, we will explore ways of preventing young people from becoming involved in anti-social behaviour, violent crime and substance misuse.
- Contributing to the Work of Agencies and Partnerships that have a Leading Role in **Working with Victims and Offenders** – we will continue to work closely with local partners to meet the needs of victims and offenders. Where the Community Safety Partnership does not have a leading role in delivering these services, it can play a key part in supporting and raising awareness of these. Our contributions will include support with funding and using our networks and communications to promote services and campaigns.

## Partnership achievements

- Established weekend resource centre provision, providing warm shelter, a hot meal and access to advice services. This means that the street community & rough sleepers have access to such services seven days a week.
- Supported an extensive summer programme of activities, targeting places at young people at risk of being drawn into serious crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Funded a domestic abuse learning event for local professionals. Attendees heard the 'lived experience' of six women who have experienced abuse to underline the impact of abuse on individual women and their children.
- Raised awareness of domestic abuse through the Rita project and the White Ribbon Campaign and funded a drop in service for victims of domestic abuse.
- Re-establishing a regular forum where representatives from foreign language schools, the police and Council meet to discuss measures that help safeguard the 15,000 students who study in the town each year.

## Partnership plans

- Review the demand for outreach engagement with street communities and continue our work with the Eastbourne and Lewes Street Communities Partnership and Rough Sleeping Initiative.
- Complete a review of our Joint Action Group to ensure we deliver effective responses to anti-social behaviour in local neighbourhoods.
- Work with the Eastbourne Youth Partnership to help young people at risk of being drawn into anti-social behaviour and crime.
- Continue our work to raise awareness and reporting of domestic abuse and address the needs of those affected.
- Support the Discovery Project to identify the extent of human trafficking and modern slavery in our area and support victims.
- Deliver a programme of campaigns through our social media with a particular focus on Scams.

### What are the Lewes priorities and why?

- **Anti-Social Behaviour** is a key priority for residents of Lewes District and a particular focus for members of the Community Safety Partnership.
- **Road Safety** - Road safety in the district continues to be raised as a concern by residents affected by speeding and dangerous driving in their local area and can affect people's lives and feelings of safety.
- **Young people at risk** - Young people involved in anti-social behaviour are being targeted by criminal gangs and are particularly vulnerable to being drawn into criminal activity. We will work with Children's Services, the police and other partners to develop specific projects to reduce anti-social behaviour amongst young people and protect them from the risk of serious exploitation.
- **Organised crime** - We are particularly concerned by the growth of violent and organised crime across the south, particularly in coastal towns. The Partnership will continue work to focus on the impact and issues facing young people across the District.
- **Domestic abuse** continues to be under-reported. The Community Safety Partnership can play a key role in raising awareness and encouraging reporting, as well as ensuring services are in place to support the people affected.

### Partnership achievements

- Worked in partnership Sussex Police, the Council's Neighbourhood & Housing Teams and Sussex Community Development Association to create a multi-agency team set up to address anti-social behaviour across Newhaven and surrounding areas.
- Supported Connected Youth, an outreach programme delivering services to young people in the District. The project supported 55 young people in the first 3-months.
- Promoted road safety campaigns and supported the development of community speed watch initiatives and fund research into tackling traffic dominance in Lewes.
- Funded Safe from Harm a project providing emotional and practical support to high-risk victims of hate crime and anti-social behaviour across East Sussex.

### Partnership plans

- Continue to work with Town and Parish Councils and local groups to identify the impact of anti-social driving on local people and communities.
- Focus on the crime and dis-order issues faced by young people and addressing the impact of serious and organised crime faced by the wider community.
- Work to raise awareness of domestic abuse, by focussing on young people and continuing to raise awareness of the specific issues facing rural communities.
- Support the Discovery Project to identify the extent of human trafficking and modern slavery in our area and support victims.
- Deliver a programme of campaigns through our social media with a particular focus on Scams.

## Safer Hastings Partnership Plan

### Working together to make Hastings safer

Across Hastings Borough all of issues identified in this business plan apply. A greater part of the activity discussed is incorporated in the activities of the Safer Hastings Partnership.

The Safer Hastings Partnership and the Safer Rother Partnership continue working jointly, at a strategic level to conserve resources. However, local emphasis is addressed by separate Joint Action Groups.

The main drivers of the crime and disorder issues reported in Hastings, and beyond, are drug misuse and addiction, alcohol addiction and abuse, acquisition of wealth and a lack of community awareness/understanding. The Safer Hastings Partnership has been dealing with the symptoms of these drivers for quite some time. Refocusing activity to help reduce reported crime and disorder is key to future action.

#### What are the partnership's priorities now, and for 2020/21?

- **Tackling street and community related anti-social behaviour** – street based antisocial behaviour, fuelled mainly by drug and alcohol misuse causes fear, alarm and distress to all. Tackling this behaviour involves the whole community.
- **Managing violent crime (including Domestic Abuse)** – violence, either in public or at home is unacceptable. Public violent behaviour, again fuelled largely by alcohol, should not be tolerated anywhere. Hidden violence and abuse continues to rise. The SHP wants to promote reporting of domestic abuse, whilst limiting the impact of public violent displays.
- **Reducing youth crime and supporting young people** – provision of activities to divert young people away from inappropriate crime generating circumstances. Efforts to protect young people as well as explain the consequences of actions are underway.
- **Improve road safety** - inconsiderate driving behaviour continues to be at the root of traffic collisions. Improving understanding of other road users is key.

- **Not tolerating modern slavery and human trafficking** – these continue to emerge as partners investigate community intelligence reports. Hidden in variety of circumstances from hand car washes to nail bars and care homes. The exploitation of individuals across the area is of considerable concern to all partner agencies.

### What's been/being done in Hastings now, and into 2020/21?

#### Action in Hastings continues to tackle local issues:

- Modifying the ASB PSPO now including a larger area of prohibitions associated with alcohol misuses and unacceptable behaviours.
- Redesigning public spaces and installing gates, reduces the impact of local nuisance. Replacing graffiti with local community art.
- Helping steer the local Business Crime Reduction Partnership to help manage the night time economy and tackle shop theft.
- Promoting the reporting off domestic abuse through the annual White Ribbon Campaigns, to the relevant authorities to ensure action occurs.
- Actively participating in the modern slavery and exploitation Discovery project.
- Providing additional engaging activities for young people out into their neighbourhoods and informing them about the dangers of knife carrying and exploitation.
- Sharing road safety messages across the partnership ensuring messages are reinforced by all partners.
- Supporting the Fire Service lead 'Safety in Action' pupil awareness raising events.
- Evaluating the innovative Community Alcohol Partnership: concentrating on under age alcohol consumption in eastern Hastings and Ore.

## Safer Rother Partnership Plan

### Working together to make Rother a safe place to live, work and visit

Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour committed across Rother is managed and addressed on a daily basis by joint working through the Safer Rother Partnership's Joint Action Group (JAG), associated working groups and day to day multi agency initiatives by local agencies.

The Safer Hastings and the Safer Rother Partnerships continue to work together through a joint strategic partnership board. This enables us to maximise the effectiveness of resources and organisational staff time across shared priorities.

The joint work focuses on actions that improve communication between partners, pools resources and makes the impact of interventions, initiatives and projects far more effective and long lasting. There are also joint Hastings and Rother working groups to address anti-social behaviour and hate crime, road safety, modern slavery (Discovery), cuckooing and Serious Organised Crime and domestic abuse.

Rother residents and businesses also suffer from criminal activity crossing Rother, Hastings, Wealden and the Kent area.

#### Joint Community Safety priorities for now, and for 2020/21?

Community safety priorities which continue to evolve as issues are investigated and examined by partner agencies. The annual Strategic Assessment demonstrates the range of community safety issues needing to be addressed, alongside those identified by intelligence and data led prioritisation at a local level. Local residents still consider antisocial behaviour (in all its forms) as the main issue that needs addressing.

The Safer Rother Partnership will continue to work with the Safer Hastings Partnership to support and address the wide range of issues described in the Strategic Assessment but will focus on:

- **Street & community related anti-social behaviour** – street based anti-social behaviour, in all its forms, causes alarm and distress to all. Medium and High Risk victims continue to be supported through the multi-agency ASBRAC process.
- **Violent Crime (especially Domestic Abuse)** – violence, either in public or at home is unacceptable. Public violent behaviour will not be tolerated in any of the town centres or in rural areas. Reported hidden violence and abuse continues to rise. More is also being dealt with. The safer community partnerships want to continue this positive activity and promote reporting of domestic abuse.
- **Youth Crime and vulnerable young people** – reducing young people as victims of crime and anti-social behaviour whilst working in partnership to reduce both the occurrence and impact of young people involved in crime and ASB.

- **Road Safety** - the Safer Hastings & Rother Roads Partnership group, delivers a range of campaigns and actions needed to reduce injury and make road use safer.
- **Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking** – this hidden issue can be found in a variety of circumstances from caring and domestic services, farming, hand car washes to nail bars and take-aways. It also includes people trafficking UK residents across the country. Joint work across Hastings and Rother is delivered through the Discovery project.
- **Partnership communications and reassurance messages** –Improving and focusing on messages that are important to residents, visitors and businesses will be developed.

### What has been achieved in Rother in 2019/20...

The Partnership has continued to focus on:

- Rough sleepers and members of the street community. Worked with partners to identify rough sleepers in Rother, engage and support them to access services including housing, mental health and substance misuse and working on housing solutions and a jointly funded night shelter in Bexhill and Seaview's Outreach service.
- A Joint Hastings and Rother response to deliver our White Ribbon Campaign – '16 Days of Action' at locations across Rother and Hastings, including a social media drive.
- The implementation of the Rother Public Space Protection Order to address Nuisance Behaviour and the Consumption of Alcohol in a Public Place by Rother District Council with partnership support.
- Continued investment of resources by Rother District Council and Police to address modern slavery and cuckooing across Rother, as a priority.
- Reducing the impact of anti-social behaviour (ASB) across Rother with intensive but effective work by council environmental health, housing officers, police and social housing colleagues and Safe From Harm. Finding solutions to neighbour disputes, youth and street community ASB.
- Housing related issues for both victims of ASB and Domestic abuse and our responsibilities for high risk offenders and rough sleepers.

The Safer Rother Partnership's Joint Action Group and Rother District Council helped fund a number of diverse projects and initiatives over the last 12 months e.g.

- Safe From Harm service to provided dedicated Rother case work for victims of hate crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Street outreach by Seaview for rough sleepers in Rother and a night shelter.
- Providing young people with a safe space with activities after school between 3 and 5pm.

- Rent deposits for new homes in the private rented sector for victims of anti-social behaviour.
- Work with the police, probation and substance misuse services to provide assistance with accommodation for ex-offenders as part of rehabilitation initiatives.
- Safety in Action and other road safety initiatives.
- Variable Messaging System Modem to provide remote access to update and change messaging, for both road safety and crime prevention messages including White Ribbon and other campaigns.
- CCTV at leisure facilities and public conveniences to address, criminal damage, drug dealing and taking, rough sleeping and issues with young people involved in ASB/drug dealing.

### **The emerging Rother priorities for 2020/21 include:**

- Rural Crime - including cross border crime especially burglary, speciality thefts e.g. large plant and vehicles. This includes joint initiatives with Wealden, Surrey and Kent Policing and partner agencies in Rother.
- County Lines – drug supply and cuckooing in both urban and rural areas of Rother. This work will continue to focus on victims of cuckooing, reducing the impact on the wider community and young people and will require periods of intense joint work when county lines move/expand into Rother from Hastings and other areas.
- Acquisitive crime within retail, it's links to community reassurance and addiction which will include working with the business sector, residents, support and enforcement agencies.

Although work has been carried out during 2019/20 the following continue to be prioritised in Rother and interventions will continue during 2020/21:

- Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking – Discovery.
- Rough Sleepers and the Street Community.
- Delivering interventions to reduce the impact of anti-social behaviour through multi agency interventions (e.g. ASBRAC), Council interdepartmental working, the use of Public Space Protection Orders, Community Protection Warnings and Notices.

## Appendix A: Partnership Performance Measures

Measure
The number of reports of fraud by East Sussex residents to Operation Signature
The number of reports of Doorstep Crime in East Sussex to East Sussex Trading Standards
The number of partners signed up to the East Sussex Against Scams Partnership Charter
The number of young people in East Sussex considered to be at high risk to child exploitation and discussed at the Multi-agency Child Exploitation (MACE)
The number of <i>episodes</i> of children who are reported missing in East Sussex
The number of Cuckooing cases in East Sussex
The number of community safety training and awareness raising sessions delivered to organisations within the county, including schools, staff, partners and the wider community
The number of potential victims of modern slavery and human trafficking referred in to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) by Sussex Police
The number of potential victims of modern slavery and human trafficking referred in to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) by East Sussex Local Authority
The number of reported incidents of Serious Violent Crime in East Sussex
The number of reported incidents of Knife Crime in East Sussex
The number of referrals accepted onto the REBOOT scheme
The number of Domestic Abuse Incidents and Crimes recorded in East Sussex
The total number of cases discussed at the MARAC in East Sussex
The % of people affected by rape, sexual violence and abuse have improved coping strategies upon leaving the service
The % of people affected by domestic violence and abuse who feel safe upon leaving the service
The number of Adults in treatment for Substance Misuse in East Sussex (rolling 12 months)
The number of Young People accessing the East Sussex Under 19s Substance Misuse Service
The % of people accessing mutual aid recovery services who feel they can manage more independently as a result of using the service
The % of all in treatment, who successfully completed treatment and did not re-present within 6 months (2.15)
The % of people accessing mutual aid recovery services who feel more confident as a result of using the service
The number of drugs related deaths in East Sussex

## Appendix B: Plans and Strategies that support the development of Safer Communities

### Checkpoint

This is an early intervention scheme to find a new avenue to reduce reoffending. It was launched in 2020 and will work in partnership with statutory and third sector organisations to deliver the Ministry of Justice's Whole System Approach to reduce reoffending by supporting diversion schemes, supporting offenders to make positive life choices to prevent reoffending and protect future victims from crime.

More details can be found [here](#).

### Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) Eastbourne, Hailsham and Seaford CCG and Hastings and Rother CCG

The CCGs are GP led membership organisation responsible for commissioning the majority of health services for local people. They work closely with GP member practices, local patients and the public, neighbouring CCGs, provider organisations and other strategic partners such as East Sussex County Council to develop plans and strategies for how we will work to improve the health of local people.

Further information on the plans and strategies for the Eastbourne, Hailsham and Seaford CCG can be found [here](#)

Further information on the plans and strategies for the Hastings and Rother CCG can be found [here](#)

### Discovery Project

Launched in 2017, DISCOVERY is a partnership of government and non-government organisations coming together in the East Sussex area to tackle Modern Slavery and Human trafficking. Our aims are to protect these vulnerable people and remove the businesses and people that conduct these crimes.

Further information can be found on their [website](#).

### East Sussex Against Scams Partnership

The [East Sussex Against Scams Partnership \(ESASP\)](#) is a county-wide project helping to protect residents against scams and fraud by raising awareness with them about the different types of scams. It is a partnership of organisations - businesses, charities, church groups, clubs, community enterprises, councils, societies, voluntary groups and other partners - all committed to taking a stand against scams with the aim of making East Sussex a scam-free county.

### **East Sussex Channel Panel**

The East Sussex Channel Panel is a multi-agency membership and meets regularly to assess the risk and decide whether the person is vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism. The Channel panel develops the most appropriate support plan for the individual concerned.

### **East Sussex Children's & Young People Trust (CYPT)**

The aim of the CYPT is to improve outcomes for children and young people. It aims to support those who are vulnerable to poor outcomes. The CYPT plan sets out the joint strategic priorities of the agencies which together make up the Trust partnership.

The [CYPT plan](#) constitutes the statutory Child Poverty Strategy for East Sussex.

### **East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service (ESFRS)**

The Community Safety (Crime and Disorder) Act 1998 requires the police, local authorities, fire and rescue authorities, probation services and health services to work together to protect their local communities from crime and to help people feel safer.

The ESFRS are committed to making our communities safer by:

- Delivering high performing services
- Educating our communities
- Developing a multi-skilled, safe and valued workforce
- Making effective use of our resources

Their Annual Plan 2019/20 and further details on Strategies, Plans and Performance Information can be found on their [website](#).

### **East Sussex Health & Wellbeing Board**

The Health and Wellbeing Board is committed to improving health and wellbeing across East Sussex, especially for people, places and communities who currently have the worst health outcomes. It will make sure there is a shared and comprehensive understanding of local health and wellbeing needs, and a clear strategy to meet them.

The Health and Wellbeing Board is an unusual council committee because officers vote alongside councillors and other local representatives. It has statutory powers and meets in public. [Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-2019](#) – the Board's strategy is published on the website of the [East Sussex Strategic Partnership](#).

### **East Sussex Multi Agency Child Exploitation Group (MACE)**

The Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) Group is the strategic planning group for partnership activity to address the sexual and/or criminal exploitation of children, including 'County Lines' and missing children. The MACE Strategic Group provides oversight of children who are reported missing.

Further information can be found [here](#).

### **East Sussex Partnership Violence Reduction Unit and Serious Organised Crime meeting**

has been established to assess the countywide risk of people being drawn into serious violence. It has developed an action plan to manage the threats, risks and vulnerabilities to individuals and communities. It is made up of community safety partner agencies including education.

### **East Sussex Prevent Board**

Manages risk, threat and vulnerability as outlined in the annual [Counter Terrorism Local Profile \(CTLP\)](#).

### **East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB)**

The SAB is a multi-agency partnership, made up of statutory and voluntary partners as well as lay-members, established to promote well-being and oversee Safeguarding Adults work county-wide. The Care Act 2014 sets out the first ever statutory framework for adult safeguarding, which stipulates local authorities' responsibilities, and those with whom they work, to protect adults who may be at risk of abuse or neglect. These provisions require the local authority to:

- Carry out enquiries into suspected cases of abuse or neglect
- Establish Safeguarding Adults Boards in their area. The role of these Boards is to develop shared strategies for safeguarding and report to their local communities on their progress.

Further information can be found in the [SAB strategic plan](#).

### **East Sussex Safeguarding Children Partnership (ESSCP)**

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 created new duties for the police, health and the local authority to make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in their area. From October 2019 this arrangement will be called the '*East Sussex Safeguarding Children Partnership*' (ESSCP). The three local safeguarding partners are East Sussex County Council, Sussex Police, Clinical Commissioning Groups (Eastbourne, Hailsham & Seaford CCG; Hastings & Rother CCG and High Weald Lewes Havens CCG) represented by the Sussex and East Surrey (SES) Commissioners.

The ESSCP will act as a forum for safeguarding partners to:

- agree on ways to coordinate safeguarding services in East Sussex
- act as a strategic leadership group in supporting and engaging other agencies across East Sussex
- Implement local, regional and national learning, including serious child safeguarding incidents.

Further information can be found within their [2018/19 Annual Report](#) and on their [website](#).

### **East Sussex Under 19's Service**

The Under 19's Substance Misuse Service works across East Sussex. ESCC leads the service with staff from different teams all working together. The service offers tier 2 to tier 4 (prevention to treatment) provision. This includes an assessment, casework function and direct access to a range of holistic specialist interventions

### **East Sussex Youth Offending Team**

Made up of staff recruited from the Police, Probation, Children's Services (including Education), Health and the voluntary sector, the Youth Offending Team (or YOT) aims to prevent offending by children and young people. The YOT works mainly with children and young people aged 10-17 who have offended and received a caution from the police or who have been sentenced by the court to a community or custodial penalty.

More information on their work can be found [here](#).

### **Integrated Offender Management (IOM)**

IOM brings a cross-agency response to manage the small number of offenders who cause a disproportionate amount of crime. Historically, the IOM Sussex cohort consists of serious acquisitive crime offenders.

### **Kent, Surrey and Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company (KSS CRC)**

KSS CRC provides probation services in Kent, Surrey and Sussex that deliver the sentence of the court, reduce the likelihood of reoffending and minimise the risk of harm to others. They work closely with the National Probation Service, police, prisons, courts and community organisations to reduce reoffending and enable individuals to make positive changes to their lives.

They are responsible for:

- The management of low and medium risk service users who the court has sentenced to a community or suspended sentence order
- Managing and supporting low and medium risk service users who are on a licence or post-release supervision after prison
- Supporting the resettlement of prisoners via the Through the Gate initiative

Further information can be found within the 2019/20 [KSS CRC Annual Service Plan](#).

### **National Probation Service (NPS)**

The National Probation Service is a statutory criminal justice service that supervises high-risk offenders released into the community.

[HM Prison and Probation Service Business Plan 2018-2019](#)

### **Operation Signature**

Operation Signature is the Sussex Police process to identify and support vulnerable victims of fraud within Sussex

Further information can be found [here](#).

### **Reboot**

Sussex Early Intervention Youth Programme aimed at encouraging young people to make positive choices instead of becoming involved in crime or serious violence. Further information can be found here: [REBOOT](#)

### **Rough Sleeping Initiative (RSI)**

Hastings and Eastbourne Borough Councils received funding from 1st October 2018 from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) to work with partners to improve rough sleeper's ability to access to statutory support services, temporary accommodation and long-term housing solutions. MHCLG funding was made available to the other districts and borough in 2019.

The focus of the Rough Sleepers Initiative (RSI) is to work with 32 of the most complex cases across the 2 boroughs. Rough sleepers will be assessed with those who have the most complex multiple needs being prioritised for the programme.

Further information can be found within the [Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019 – 2023](#)

### **Stop the Traffik**

STOP THE TRAFFIK is a pioneer in human trafficking prevention. Working to unite people around the world by inspiring, informing, equipping and mobilising communities to; know what human trafficking is, know how to identify it and know how to respond appropriately if they saw it

More information can be found on their [website](#)

### **Sussex Criminal Justice Board (SCJB)**

The Sussex Criminal Justice Board (SCJB) was established in 2003 following a government directive as a result of recommendations in the Auld Report. The SCJB was created to provide a structure for strategic leaders to meet, discuss and agree measures to improve the Criminal Justice System for the public. The key purpose of the SCJB is to set the direction for the delivery of improvements through multi-agency consultation and working. Further information can be found in the [SCJB Constitution](#).

### **Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner**

The Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) has a statutory duty to set the policing and crime objectives for their area through a Police & Crime Plan. A new Police & Crime Plan was developed last year which sets out the strategic policing objectives for how policing services will

be delivered in Sussex across 2017/21. An Operational Delivery Plan sets out how the Chief Constable will use its resources to deliver policing services and achieve the objectives set out in the [Police & Crime Plan](#).

### **Sussex Restorative Justice Partnership (SRJP)**

Restorative Justice (RJ) has strong foundations in Sussex and several partners are involved in delivering RJ locally to strengthen service provision and design victim-led model that informs future commissioned services. The SRJP brings together all the agencies and authorities with an interest in RJ. The work of this group is being delivered through the Sussex Criminal Justice Board (SCJB). The group, which is led by a Partnership Manager from the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner, includes a diverse range of people including practitioners, criminal justice agencies, community representatives and the voluntary and community sector. Further information can be found on the OSPCC [website](#)

### **Sussex Safer Roads Partnership**

The [Sussex Safer Roads Partnership](#) brings together teams from Sussex Police, East and West Sussex County Councils, East and West Sussex Fire and Rescue Services, Brighton and Hove City Council and Highways England. They believe that, together, they can create a safer environment for all road users, significantly reduce life-changing injuries and eliminate fatalities.

## Appendix C: National Strategies and Policies

### Vulnerable People being exploited by Organised Crime Groups

- In **May 2018**, the National Crime Agency (NCA) published its annual [National Strategic Assessment of Serious and Organised Crime 2018](#)
- Sussex Police **Serious and Organised Crime (SOC) Local Profile** is produced by Sussex Police to help inform local and national partnerships of the profile of the SOC threat within each local area and to update on some of the activity that has taken place over the year.
- In **September 2018**, the Home Office Criminal Exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: County Lines guidance
- In **November 2018**, the Government published the [Serious and Organised Crime Strategy](#).

### Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking

- In **March 2015**, the Government published the [Modern Slavery Act](#) which gave law enforcement the tools to fight modern slavery, ensure perpetrators can receive suitably severe punishments for these appalling crimes and enhance support and protection for victims.
- In **August 2018**, the Government published the '[Review of the Modern Slavery Act 2015: terms of reference](#)'.
- In **October 2018**, the [2018 UK Annual Report on Modern Slavery](#) was published.

### Fraud Related Harm

- In **May 2018**, the UK Government published its response to the [Internet Safety Strategy Green Paper](#).
- In **September 2018**, the Department for Education published their revised [Keeping Children Safe in Education](#) 2018 statutory guidance.

### Serious Violent Crime

- In **April 2018**, the Home Office published the [Serious Violence Strategy](#)

## Preventing Violent Extremism

- In **June 2018**, the [National Counter Terrorism Strategy \(CONTEST\)](#) was refreshed.
- [Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015](#)
- In **July 2018**, the Government developed a [Commission for Countering Extremism](#) which supports society to fight all forms of extremism.

## Drug and Alcohol Misuse

- In July 2017, the Government produced a [Drug Strategy which](#) sets out how the government and its partners, at local, national and international levels, will take new action to tackle drug misuse and the harms it causes.
- In April 2018, the Government developed a [Serious Violence Strategy](#) which considers how to best tackle County Lines and the misuse of drugs

## Domestic Violence and Abuse, Stalking and Sexual Violence

- [Clare's Law](#) - scheme allowing police to disclose to individuals details of their partners' abusive pasts. This includes having the:
  - 'right to ask' - this enables someone to ask the police about a partner's previous history of domestic violence or violent acts. A precedent for such a scheme exists with the Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme; and
  - 'right to know' - police can proactively disclose information in prescribed circumstances.
- The [Government's Domestic Abuse Bill](#) 2019-2021 will
  - raise awareness and understanding about the devastating impact of domestic abuse on victims and their families
  - further improve the effectiveness of the justice system in providing protection for victims of domestic abuse and bringing perpetrators to justice
  - strengthen the support for victims of abuse by statutory agencies

## Hate Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

- In **October 2018**, "[Action against Hate](#)", was published, which is the UK Government's plan for tackling hate crime 'two years on'.

## Offending

- The [Homelessness Reduction Act 2018](#) extends the existing duty to provide advisory services by placing a duty on local housing authorities (LHAs) in England to provide free information and advice to any person in the LHA's district on preventing and relieving homelessness, the rights of homeless people or those threatened with homelessness, as well as the help that is available from the LHA or others and how to access that help. The service should be designed with certain listed vulnerable groups in mind (e.g. care leavers, victims of domestic abuse). It also permits LHAs to outsource advisory services.

## Data Protection

In **May 2018**, the new data protection law came into force. It is based on the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and replaces the existing UK Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA).