

**CHARNWOOD COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP  
THURSDAY, 13 JULY 2023  
COMMITTEE ROOM 1, CHARNWOOD BOROUGH COUNCIL OFFICES  
MINUTES**

<b>Present:</b>	<p>Councillor Liz Blackshaw Inspector David Stokes (NPA Commander and Vice-Chair) Jenny Ardley Peter Singleton Zoe Heath Maddie Clay Ioni Ashford James O'Connell Karey Summers Gareth Harvey Giuseppe Vassallo Allison Fadesco Andrew Staton Claire Westrup Sally Watson (minutes)</p>	<p>Charnwood Borough Council Leicestershire Police  Loughborough University Turning Point Leicestershire County Council (Resilience) Leicestershire Probation Loughborough BID OPCC Charnwood Borough Council Charnwood Borough Council Charnwood Borough Council Charnwood Borough Council Charnwood Borough Council Charnwood Borough Council</p>
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**1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

The new Chair of the Community Safety Partnership, Councillor Liz Blackshaw (Lead Member for Communities and Neighbourhoods) was introduced to the group.

Following this, the Chair took over the meeting.

The new Head of Regulatory and Community Safety at Charnwood Borough Council, Gareth Harvey, introduced himself to the group.

**2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR**

It was agreed that Inspector David Stokes be appointed Vice-Chair of the committee for the Council year 2023-24.

**3 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from the following:

Nicola Streets	OPCC
Grace Strong	Violence Reduction Network
Tim McCabe	Charnwood Borough Council
Rob Kitson	Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service
Ant Dales	Loughborough University
Sarah Whannell	Falcon Centre
Sarah Lewis	LLR integrated Care Board
Jo Hewitt	Leicestershire County Council (Public Health)

Shauna Atkins (Deputy NPA Leicestershire Police  
Commander)

Anita Chavda

Gino Harris

Leicestershire County Council (Community Safety)

Leicestershire County Council (Resilience)

4 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 20th April 2023 were approved.

5 ACTION LOG

The action log, paused since January 2023, was reviewed and updates were provided as follows;

**COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP  
ACTION LOG**

<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Complete By</b>
260123 Item 04	<p>Andy Thomas look at creating a more suitable action logging method, associated with strategies, risk and threat outside of the meeting.</p> <p><i>Following the departure of Andy Thomas, Gareth Harvey, Head of Regulatory and Community Safety at Charnwood Borough Council, stated that he felt the previous method of recording actions was suitable for the group. The group agreed to continue to use this method of action monitoring and would revisit this if there were any issues highlighted in future meetings.</i></p>	<p>Andy Thomas</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Close</i></p>
260123 Item 05	<p>Amendments made to the CSP Terms of Reference as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delegated authority be given to the Chair and Vice-Chair of the CSP to enable amendments to the Terms of Reference where required.</li> <li>• The 'Charnwood Community Safety Partnership Membership and Voting' table should be amended to state that the Director of Customer Experience was a core member, as opposed to the Director of Housing and Wellbeing.</li> <li>• The 'Overarching Aim' be amended to read 'to deliver enhanced partnership working, collaboration and collective problem solving to create safer communities'.</li> </ul> <p><i>This action was complete.</i></p>	<p>Vicky Brackenbury</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Close</i></p>
260123 Item 07	<p>Andy Thomas contact Gurjit Samra-Rai to organise attendance from Charnwood at the Harm to Hope group.</p> <p><i>Gareth Harvey stated that he would follow this up.</i></p>	<p>Andy Thomas</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Reassigned to Gareth Harvey</i></p>
260123 Item 08	<p>Andy Thomas consider new and effective ways to process Community Triggers in line with legislation.</p> <p><i>Gareth Harvey was new in post and had not been involved in previous discussions around Community Triggers. Tim McCabe had been working on Community Triggers processes and Gareth Harvey agreed to liaise with Tim McCabe and update at the next meeting.</i></p>	<p>Andy Thomas</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Reassigned to Gareth Harvey/Tim McCabe</i></p>

A presentation detailing Charnwood performance figures was provided. The following summarises the discussion:

- i. The following crime types had increased in comparison to the same period in 2022/23; total crime (+2.9%), burglary – business and community (+1.4%), theft of motor vehicle (+10.3%), shoplifting (+38.6%), cycle theft (+16.7%), violence against the person with injury (+22.8%).
- ii. The following crime types had decreased in comparison to the same period in 2022/23; burglary – residential (-15.6%), theft from motor vehicle (-16%), robbery (-36%), Sentinel reports for anti-social behaviour incidents (-19%).
- iii. It was highlighted that burglary – residential and robbery were the types of crimes which caused higher rates of fear in the community. It was acknowledged that although these crime types had significantly decreased over the past year, there was a need to reduce incidents further. The Police were using a target-hardening approach to reduce these types of crime.
- iv. The increase in crimes associated with burglary – business and community and shoplifting was partly due to the current social climate, and also due to the impact of the Drugs Strategy in place. There had been a substantial amount of work undertaken to decrease the presence of drugs in the community. As a result, drug prices had increased and more crimes of these types, which could generate money, were being committed. The Police were using a target-hardening approach and were education business owners on ways to better secure their premises against these types of crime.
- v. The Police were looking at a cocooning in the Loughborough University student community areas for the start of the new academic term. Cocooning was a target-hardening approach whereby education and information was provided in specific, high-risk areas.
- vi. The Police were using a target-hardening approach to reduce theft from motor vehicles, including increasing the presence of police on the streets during the hours in which these offences most commonly took place. This crime type had been reduced to pre-pandemic levels and it was highlighted that the reduction in this crime was a fundamental achievement, given the recent issues associated with the pandemic and the cost of living.
- vii. Charnwood Borough Council were providing Civil Powers training to Police Officers to try to increase and encourage use. It was confirmed that a probation order would usually mirror a civil order, and that if the probation order was breached then the individual would be returned to prison. Licensing conditions would not usually include an exclusion zone around shops, unless there was a civil order in place which referred to this.

- viii. Some of the businesses within the Loughborough BID area were participating in an unofficial exclusion order scheme. This was not a legal enforcement scheme and relied on individuals adhering to the scheme. The Loughborough BID was also working with businesses to encourage them to assess their own strategies in order to deter shoplifters.
- ix. There was a requirement for more target hardening around cycle thefts and it was acknowledged that more partnership working between the Police and Loughborough University would be advantageous in reducing cycle thefts. Loughborough University were encouraging staff members to liaise with students to ensure they were aware of the risk of cycle thefts in an attempt at target hardening.
- x. The increase in crimes classed as 'violence against the person with injury' was partly due to changes in crime recording. It was also due to the increase in work to encourage domestic violence crime reporting.
- xi. The decline in Sentinel reports had been the result of intensive work to reduce anti-social behaviour, including through the Safer Streets project. Despite the reduction in Sentinel reports of crime, members of the community had been actively encouraged to report crimes through official channels, indicating that the reduction was due to fewer crimes being committed.

**AGREED** that the information be noted.

## 7 ADOPTION OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2023-26

**AGREED** that following consultation, the CSP Plan 2023-26 be ratified.

## 8 CSP STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES 2023-26 UPDATE

8a. Safeguarding communities from abuse and violent offences.

8b. To reduce harm caused by youth ASB youth crime.

8c. To reduce criminal exploitation.

The following summarises the discussion:

- i. Giuseppe Vassallo was praised for his work in trauma informed approaches, and it was highlighted that the work was exceptional and added substantial benefit to the community.
- ii. County Lines within the Charnwood area had significantly reduced, and it was recognised that further work was required in order to continue to reduce this. Crime associated with County Lines caused significant vulnerability and a large amount of anti-social behaviour. The work of

the partnership was vital in addressing the vulnerability of the individuals affected by County Lines crime.

**AGREED** that the information be noted.

## 9 PARTNER UPDATES

A number of update reports from partners were provided. The following summarises the discussion on the reports circulated and also the verbal updates from partners:

- i. There was a fire safety walk around the Bell Foundry estate planned for Tuesday 18th July 2023. The walk was hosted by the OPCC and would involve demonstrations from Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service. Partners were invited to attend the event.
- ii. It was highlighted that it would be beneficial for more exercises and training events to be delivered by the Leicestershire Resilience Forum.
- iii. A written update from Sarah Whannell (Falcon Support Services) was communicated to the group. The update stated that anti-social behaviour and drug use continued to be a problem for the Falcon Centre and that staff were reporting incidents. There had been no complaints from the medical practice and incidents had been de-escalated before affecting the wider community. It was possible that the funding for the Falcon Centre may be cut in April 2024. A survey had been sent out and it was requested that partners completed this, and attended planned consultations if they were able to. Finally, the update referred to two new Street Recovery Workers in Charnwood, which had been recruited using OPCC funding. The existing Recovery Worker was receiving some positive outcomes.

**AGREED** that the information be noted.

## 10 BASIC WATER RESCUE TRAINING

Rob Kitson of Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service provided a written update on the Basic Water Rescue training provided by the service. The following summarises the written update and the discussion:

- i. A Water Safety video presentation, which was compiled by our Community Safety department went out to 104 schools across Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland on 22nd June 2023, with the recommendation to be shown to all pupils from Year 7-13.
- ii. The Waterside Responder Scheme was backed by the RNLI who had delivered training to several Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service personnel. The scheme offered basic water rescue training to employees of businesses with areas of water adjacent to their business. Various locations were currently being explored within

Charnwood, with the Moorings Public House in Barrow upon Soar being one such location.

- iii. World Drowning Prevention Day was 25th July 2023. Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service planned to utilise social media to highlight the dangers of water and give water safety advice.
- iv. The Arson Reduction initiative within the schools and colleges proved problematic due to limited personnel and the difficulty with access to the school's busy timetables. An alternative solution would be identified for the new school year, which would possibly be similar to the Water Rescue video approach, enabling schools and colleges to deliver the video at a convenient time.
- v. There had been a significant reduction in deliberate fires in the first quarter of the year compared to last year (50% reduction). This reflects on the good work that Giuseppe Vassallo and others had undertaken on anti-social behaviour, and some of the work Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service had done to deliver the Arson Reduction presentation.
- vi. There was a Flood Warden event taking place on 16th September 2023 at Leicestershire County Council. Partners were invited to invite delegates if required.
- vii. The Leicestershire Resilience Forum were working with the Environment Agency and the Canal and River Trust to warn and inform the public on water safety.
- viii. There was an online session on Summer Risks, delivered by the Leicestershire Resilience Forum. This included information on heat, swimming in quarries and other topics associated with summer risks and hot weather. This presentation was available to partners, and a further session was being planned on Winter Risks.

**AGREED** that the information be noted.

## 11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- i. There was no information available at the meeting on claiming further OPCC grant funding for the Safer Streets project. James O'Connell agreed to inquire about this and contact Giuseppe Vassallo outside of the meeting.

**AGREED** that James O'Connell inquire about claiming further OPCC funding for the Safer Streets project and contact Giuseppe Vassallo as soon as possible.

## 12 FORWARD PROGRAMME

A report to enable the Partnership to consider and manage its forward programme of work was provided.

The forward programme of work was noted.

Upcoming meetings;

12th October 2023 at 10am