

CHARNWOOD COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP REPORT

ITEM 06

Organisation	Leicestershire Police - Charnwood NPA	Author	Charlotte Dickens	Date	8 th January 2025
Subject Title	Priority 1: Safeguarding Communities from Abuse and Violent offences				
Summary <i>(Purpose, background & context for the report update)</i>	This report represents a review of performance over quarter 3 during the 2024/25 Periods against the objectives set under CSP Strategic Priority 1: Safeguarding Communities from Abuse and Serious Violence.				
Recommendations <i>(Any recommendations for the CSP to consider)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to complete performance data analysis from Partnership Strategic Assessment and ASB Case Reviews to influence 2025/26 delivery i.e. what worked well and what we should do more of • Implement and share learning from the findings of any DHR's where necessary • To review and implement the delivery plan for this priority to ensure that key actions progress is tracked and evidenced accordingly. • To continue to use the VCCU hotspot data to identify key locations particularly around serious violent 				
Performance Data <i>(Insert any relevant performance data)</i>	<p>The information gathered and summarised in this report captures the work carried out by the partnership towards the strategic objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise awareness of Domestic Abuse, Sexual Abuse and the support services available in Charnwood • Deliver a year-on-year reduction in the number of Violence with Injury crimes recorded <i>I have been able to analysis the data, year to date for the number of violence against the person injury crimes recorded, we are 11.3% down on the same period last year.</i> • Deliver a year-on-year reduction in the number of Domestic Violence recorded <i>I have been able to analysis the date over Q1 – Q3 compared with the same period last year and Domestic abuse offences have reduced by 5.3% compared with the same period last year.</i> • Increase victims' confidence in reporting their experience and satisfaction with the response they receive 				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve a Reduction in Night-Time Economy related Violence Offences (baseline 2022/23 reported offences) <i>Awaiting specific data on this from the VCCU</i> • Raise awareness of the consequences of Knife Crime within educational establishments in Charnwood – with a specific focus on individuals aged 25 years old and younger <i>Detailed within SP2.</i> • Achieve a year on year reduction of the number of Young People engaged with knife Crime diversionary activities <i>Detailed within SP2.</i>
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Priority 1 – Safeguarding communities from abuse and violent offences

<p>Update/s - including specific work, initiatives, projects etc. that contribute to priority 1</p>	<p><u>Summary – Quarter 3</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The VCCU Hotspot policing project is underway with dedicated officers within the NTE police deployment being dedicated to patrol this key location. Leicestershire Police have led a media and comms campaign “You’re right, that’s wrong” including press releases, social media initiatives and leaflet circulations have been deployed to raise awareness in the town centre of Loughborough, encourage reporting and change attitudes. This has continued to be rolled out across social media and NTE premises with a special campaign around the festive and new year period. • The police have a new dedicated night time economy single point of contact who will be attending all NTE and licensing meetings and will be able to physically visit all licensed premises. • There has been a number of proactive operations and partnership work which has taken place within Q3. There is currently 10 section 8 warning notices which are in place, these are proactive warnings which are served on occupants on addresses when there is information to suggest that premises are being used in connection with the supply of controlled drugs. This warning then details the offences committed by the occupant if they knowingly allow their premises to be used in this way. • Within Q2 we have had 9 closure orders which have been in place, this is where a closure order is served at an address where either a partial closure order will be sought to allow the occupant to still remain within the premises or a full closure order were the premises will be fully closed and no one will be allowed to stay in the property. Closure orders are generally sought when an address is causing a considerable concern and attracting serious Anti social behaviour relating to drugs use and drugs supply and often serious violence is associated with addresses which are being used in this way.
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- Charnwood police have also piloted a new initiative called Op Cuckooing, this is where a specific process is followed when information or intelligence is received about an address and occupants which may be subject to being cuckooed. This is a multi-layered approach with support from the force intelligence department and partner agencies. The aim is to identify risk early and put support measures/enforcement opportunities in place.
- Leicestershire Police continue to hold a weekly threat meetings which discuss current cross cutting themes and highlight any trends in crime or Occurrences. This includes service to women and girls (VAWG) and Vulnerable victims.
- A bi-weekly multi agency meeting is now in place to discuss those who are causing most harm.
- Joint working takes place between CSP agencies to ensure any required safeguarding and risk management tasks are completed and civil enforcement options are explored during various meetings held under the CSP.
- Operation sceptre took place within Q3 and saw officers and colleagues conducting proactive patrols in key locations, working with volunteers to conduct knife sweeps at open spaces across the borough and working with partners to deliver educational inputs.
- County lines intensification week took place within Q3 where there was a detailed schedule of enforcement and actions across the week which resulted in:
 - : 3 Misuse of drugs warrants being executed
 - : 3 persons arrested for drug related offences
 - : 1 warrant executed with trading standards resulting in a large amount of counterfeit items including vapes, illegal tobacco and cigarettes being recovered followed by police enacting a closure order at the location.
 - : Focused S8 and closure order visits which resulted in 2 people being arrested for breach of the closure orders.

A year-on-year reduction in the number of Domestic Violence with Injury crimes recorded

The data set for a year on year reduction can be obtained from the PSA document

A year-on-year reduction in the number of Serious Violence Offences reported (baseline 2022/23 reported offences)

To support this objective, the CSP continued the development of the Joint Action Group, Adults at Risk Group and the Youth Joint Action Group to enable early identification of Adults and Young People at risk of harm and abuse.

The AARG and YJAG now use the 5x5 risk assessment processes to strengthen risk assessment and planned interventions to support the highest risk adults at risk and young people in Charnwood. Both meetings are well attended and supported by partners.

The YJAG has continued with a small number of high-risk cases, enabling greater focus on wider issues, hotspot location identification, lower risk case oversight and earlier intervention. The Chair of the YJAG has is reviewing the referral process and how to increase the number of referrals and full details will be contained within the SP3 update.

An examination of the crime data clearly illustrates that there are four key locations in relation to volume of crime in Charnwood:

- Loughborough Central: Police Beat NL62
- Loughborough East: Police Beat NL65
- Charnwood East: Police Beat NL61
- Charnwood West:- Police Beat NL64
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Updates on the ongoing work and links into the CSP groups have been detailed within previous SP1 updates but it is important to recognise that these 4 areas still remain as the key locations.

Increase victims' confidence in reporting their experience and satisfaction with the response they receive

The CSP Strategic Plan 2023-26 stated that there would be effective communications strategies for abuse and serious violence.

ASB Case Reviews may indicate levels of customer satisfaction. During quarter 3 there have been 0 new ASB case reviews however the case reviews from Q2 have been finalised. This continues to be significantly lower than in previous years.

For 2024/2025, a comms and engagement strategy will be written and implemented by the CSP Vice Chair. This is to increase confidence and allows for further communication with the CSP. Currently CBC and Charnwood Police use social media platforms to post content, often with specific themes linking to Safeguarding/VAWG.

Support Victims and survivors of Abuse and violence to cope and recover.

The CSP continues to supports agencies as previously stated in S1 updates, who can offer abuse victims such as, and funding has been made available through the CSP to many of these projects.

Charnwood Police support Domestic Abuse victims through investigations and will support in the applications of DVDS (Claire’s Law). The Domestic Abuse Resolution Team (DART)

The CSP have agreed to support a Domestic abuse link worker who can act as a support network and advisor to the DA victim who may need support. This allows for a consistent risk assessment and wraparound case work support by a suitably qualified professional. However, this position has not been filled at this time.

Deliver a year on year reduction in serious violent offences.

The data on the number of young persons engaged in diversionary activity can be obtained from the PSA document

Achieve a reduction in Night-Time Economy related Violence Offences

Detailed updates have been provided in previous SP1 reports and they all remain relevant, during Q3 the below has been achieved:

- : The police have a new dedicated night time economy single point of contact who will be attending all NTE and licensing meetings and will be able to physically visit all licensed premises.

- : The walk away campaign was specifically targed on social media to cover the charnwood night time economy geographical area

- : Additional funding was provided to support with extra early eventing NTE patrols around the festive period.

- : Police reviewed and generated a specific festive and New years eve patrol plan and strategy based on historic data and information received from licenced premises.

A monthly multiagency Night-Time Economy meeting is chaired by the new Leicestershire Police Licensing officer. This group collates and reviews incidents and offences reported in or near to licensed premises. Any licensed premises that are raised, highlighted or identified as an emerging risk, a meeting is convened with the Designated Licence Holder and an action plan implemented to reduce both the risk and the number of violent offences being committed at or near to that premises.

The Community Safety Partnership has had a Public Space Protection Order in place since October 2017. This civil order operates within a designated zone in Loughborough Town Centre and the NL62 beat encompassing part of the student residential area. Whilst the PSPO does not create an alcohol-free zone, it offers the partnership powers to curb the behaviour of individuals consuming alcohol who are believed to be engaging in, or likely to engage in anti-social behaviour.

	<p>The partnership operates Keep Safe Places in Quorn, Birstall, Shepshed, Markfield, Syston and at three venues in Loughborough Town Centre including the Falcon Centre, John Storer House and Loughborough Library. These offer locations for members of the public to escape the threat of violence and access a range of support. The initiative is supported by a Keep Safe Card scheme, with cards available to members of the public from Charnwood Borough Council and Leicestershire Police.</p> <p>Raise awareness of the consequences of Knife Crime within educational establishments in Charnwood – with a specific focus on individuals aged 25 years old and younger</p> <p>Charnwood participates in the LLR-wide Operation Sceptre, a week of action to educate young persons about the dangers of knife crime and the consequences of carrying a knife – including prevention, protection and enforcement on offenders. The Last Op Sceptre took place in Quarter 3. During this operation Police officers and partnership agencies have carried out proactive patrols, engagement events, school education sessions, beat surgeries and visit Habitual Knife Carriers (HKC’s) and any social media platforms will use the hashtags #WeDoNotCarry and #LivesNotKnives.</p> <p>HKC’s are a standing agenda within Charnwood Police weekly threat meeting, and each have a Police officer as a SPOC for the individual. The aim is to conduct visits to the HKC’s and seek any opportunities using the “seven pathways” out of offending. The seven pathways out of offending has been designed to identify and offer relevant support to the subject as a way of education and guidance away from offending or knife carrying. Guidance has been given to all HKC SPOCs in Charnwood and best practice around the force will be shared to continually improve our service.</p> <p>School workshops on knife crime are available to all LLR schools and can be booked via the Police website.</p> <p>Local Delivery Partner, Go Getta, routinely carries out consequences of knife crime work with young people in Charnwood in group sessions, 1 to 1 case work and through its peer mentor programme.</p> <p>A year on year reduction of the number of Young People engaged with knife Crime diversionary activities</p> <p>The data on the number of young persons engaged in diversionary activity can be obtained from the PSA document.</p>
<p>Budget / Resource Implications</p>	<p>None identified during this Quarter</p>

Any key risks / issues	None identified at this time.
Planned activity in the next Quarter – <i>include any specific work, initiatives, projects etc that will contribute to above CSP themes and priorities</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new 2025/2026 strategic priority recommendations will be reviewed and agreed • Continuation of delivery of local and national campaigns as previously mentioned.
Any other update, developments, achievements, challenges / opportunities	None Identified
Gaps/Support Required	None at this time.

CHARNWOOD COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP REPORT

Organisation	Charnwood Borough Council	Author	Giuseppe Vassallo	Date	20 th December 2024
Subject Title	Priority 3: Reduce Criminal Exploitation				
Summary <i>(Purpose, background & context for the report update)</i>	<p>The Charnwood CSP Strategic Plan 2023/25 sets out the following broad objectives under strategic priority 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify adults/youths at risk of exploitation • All high-risk victims receive support • Multi-agency intelligence sharing • Communities are supported and engaged <p>The CSP Strategic Plan further sets out the partnership response which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The early identification of victims of criminal exploitation referred to the Adults at Risk Group (AARG)/Youth Joint Action Group (YJAG) who receive appropriate support • The deployment of a range of enforcement powers, to be utilised, to ensure the safety of victims of Criminal Exploitation • Working in partnership to enable services to meet complex needs and achieve success at providing solutions to reduce the risk of harm to victims • Multi-agency intelligence sharing that is successful at identifying high-harm offenders <p>The response and objectives are broken down into the following aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify adults/youths at risk of exploitation and put in place appropriate referrals to support services. • Continue the development of the Adults at Risk Group and Youth JAG with a focus on preventing cases of criminal exploitation. • Ensure that front line staff are sufficiently knowledgeable about the subject enabling appropriate levels of support and referrals are submitted • Support the Police Operation - OP Gizmo aimed at preventing criminal exploitation • Engage with support agencies to meet the needs of cuckooing victims <p>This report reflects CSP performance against the above objectives.</p>				

<p>Recommendations <i>(Any recommendations for the CSP to consider)</i></p>	
<p>Performance Data <i>(Insert any relevant performance data)</i></p>	
<p>Priority 3 – To reduce criminal exploitation</p>	
<p>Update/s - including specific work, initiatives, projects etc. that contribute to priority 3</p>	<p>The Adults at Risk Group (AARG) continues to meet 6-weekly to manage the highest risk, adults at risk of harm in Charnwood. The meeting last took place on 18th December 2024 and included 6 new, potentially high-risk cases. Of those cases, all were related to mental health crisis and 4 had elements of exploitation risk. The AARG continues to experience higher levels of referrals involving mental health problems severe enough to warrant acute intervention from the Bradgate Unit and Community Mental Health Team. Local beat teams are identifying and referring adults at risk of exploitation and the AARG chair is observing positive working together between agencies.</p> <p>Charnwood Police beat teams are proactively identifying adults at risk of exploitation and are swiftly deploying appropriate responses including an increase in the use of property closure orders. This offers adults at risk of harm an opportunity to access support, reduce risks of cuckooing, and reduce financial exploitation. Simultaneously, the strategy improves the experience for communities by intervening meaningfully at an early stage, preventing escalation.</p> <p>In the previous quarter it was reported that an updated LLR multi-agency guidance for responding to cases of exploitation and cuckooing was anticipated. From December 2024, the Vulnerable Adult Risk Management (VARM) procedures ended and were replaced with new procedures called ‘Responding to Self-Neglect Including Hoarding’ which are now available on the Safeguarding Adults Board.</p> <p>In November 2024, County Lines Intensification week took place. Police conducted three Misuse of Drugs Act warrants and Joint visits with Trading Standards where required. In total, 4 arrests were made for a number of offences.</p> <p>Hotspot patrols were conducted in key areas, resulting in one, stop search with an outcome of an arrest for Possession with Intent to Supply.</p> <p>A number of Section 8 visits and closure order compliance visits were completed and one partial closure order was applied for and granted during the week.</p>

Intensification Week activity also included a joint operation with British Transport Police at Loughborough Train Station to target transient criminals and county lines operators using the train network.

The investigations resulting from Intensification Week are continuing at this time. One investigation has been submitted to the Crown Prosecution Service for a charging decision, whilst other cases are still being progressed.

The YJAG continues to identify young people at risk of exploitation and put in place appropriate referrals to support services. The CSP target to reduce YJAG referrals has been inversed with the YJAG looking proactively to identify possible cases and encourage professionals to put in referrals. This target was set during a period where there was an issue involving very high numbers of young people being referred to YJAG and two meetings were required to manage those numbers. Today, we are not experiencing the same volume of youth ASB involving high risk cases or large groups of young people causing ASB as has been the case in the past. This is achieved partially through the resource of the Neighbourhood Management Coordinator. The contract for this seconded post has been extended for 12 Months until December 2025, to ensure we remain in a strong position to improve outcomes for young people and manage exploitation risk.

Charnwood Schools have access to workshops and online resources provided by police to raise awareness of and discourage young people becoming involved in county lines. The CSP has contacted Katie Spencer for an update on engagement in Charnwood but has now been informed that Laura Summers has taken over the role of Children and Young Persons Officer, therefore the CSP will network with Laura to inform future CSP reports on this intervention.

There have been no cases that have required referral to OP Gizmo and YJAG continues to maintain strong links with Youth Justice and CCE Team colleagues. The CSP is engaging with a planned workshop in support of Op Hydra during quarter 4 which is relevant to improved multi-agency working to tackle exploitation. Community Safety Officer Craig Keen has attended day 1 of this training and will complete day 2 at a date to be confirmed.

During quarter 2, it was reported that a Problem Management Plan (PMP) had been required in the Warwick Way area, due to young people being involved in ASB. The allegedly offensive and intimidating behaviour of some local young people towards delivery drivers, Council operatives and other professionals, perpetrated by local young people, resulted in some 'Hot Spot' increased police patrols and increased deployment of detached youth work delivery. The frequency of youth work provision in this area, has decreased for Q3 with some handover to the Impact Team, made possible due to reduced risks. The area is no longer subject to PMP arrangements.

CrimeStoppers.



End of campaign report

Crimestoppers Zones in Leicestershire's People Zones

13th – 26th August 2024

CRIMESTOPPERS ZONE

Speak up about crime.

If you have crime information
You can stay 100% anonymous

Contact the **charity**
Crimestoppers

CrimeStoppers.
0800 555111
100% anonymous. Always.



Crimestoppers-uk.org
By phone and online, 24/7, 365 days a year.

The complex block is a vertical rectangular graphic with a dark blue background. At the top, it says 'CRIMESTOPPERS ZONE'. Below that, the main headline 'Speak up about crime.' is in white. Underneath, it says 'If you have crime information You can stay 100% anonymous'. Then, 'Contact the charity Crimestoppers'. The bottom section has a red diagonal background with the 'CrimeStoppers.' logo, the phone number '0800 555111', and the slogan '100% anonymous. Always.'. To the right of this text is a small logo for the 'POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER' of Leicestershire & Rutland. At the very bottom, it says 'Crimestoppers-uk.org' and 'By phone and online, 24/7, 365 days a year.' There are small white dots above and below the main text blocks.

Report compiled on 2nd October 2024

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Report summary

This is the second phase of a three-part programme, and the key objectives of the campaign activity was to raise awareness of the impact and consequences of drugs and anti-social behaviour including off-road biking across the People Zone communities.

Similar to Phase 1, this campaign ran for a two-week period and successfully achieved substantial reach across the communities. Through targeted outreach and engaging content, it resonated with a wide audience, driving awareness and participation.

Social media posts from Crimestoppers and Fearless significantly outperformed the first phase of the campaign in terms of reach and engagement. Crimestoppers reached over 47,000 people across the three People Zones, generating more than 319,000 impressions. Fearless reached over 147,000 young people and made over 1.6 million impressions across Leicestershire.

The Bell Foundry, which did not see any reports during the first campaign, received 2 reports before the campaign and 5 reports during this phase: one about vehicle crime, 2 about fraud and one regarding and immigration/border issues, and another about domestic abuse post-campaign. While these reports were not the focus of the campaign, it's encouraging to see the service being utilised in these areas.

New Parks also saw an increase of information during the campaign compared to prior and Thringstone & Whitwick reported information related to drug trafficking, possession, and manufacturing, as well as reports about domestic abuse, fraud, knife offences, and safeguarding concerns during the campaign.



**Help keep
your
community
safe**

**Speak up
about crime.**

**Stay safe.
100% anonymous.
Always.**



Crimestoppers.
0800 555111
100% anonymous. Always.

Campaign results:

100% in information across for Bell Foundry and a 20% increase during the campaign for New Parks:

Increase in information across the following crime types:

- Domestic Abuse
- Drink & Drug Driving
- Drug Cultivation and Manufacturing
- Drug Possession
- Drug Trafficking and supply
- Environment and Wildlife Crime
- Knives and Blade Offences
- Rape Under 16
- Theft
- Trading Standards
- Vehicle Crime
- Vulnerability and Safeguarding

47,120 people were reached by Crimestoppers social media, and 319,990 impressions made.

144,823 young people were reached by the social media posts making 1,632,607 impressions. There were 11,887 link clicks from these ads.

11,887 Fearless link clicks.

158 landing page views by 125 different users. 4 people went on to the online form and 2 submitted the form, during the campaign period.

Why we ran the campaign:

This is phase 2 of a 3-part campaign, which aims to raise awareness of different aspects of criminality throughout the activity delivered as well as embed Crimestoppers and Fearless as alternative reporting lines, helping to create safer places to live.

ASB and Drug Crime were identified as areas of concern for each of the People Zones and was the focus for this campaign. Interestingly, various different crime types were reported during this phase, indicating an ever-increasing trust of the anonymous reporting line as well as an appetite for the community to start sharing information.

We wanted to:

- Educate members of the community about Crimestoppers and Fearless and the unique service we offer.
- Empower people to report any information they have on crime or on any suspicious activity they may have seen or know about anonymously to Crimestoppers or to the Police.



Creative

Social media assets focussing on ASB, County Lines, Fearless and CS.

Safer Streets leaflets featuring the People Zones and OPCC logo and also highlighting the option to report information in languages other than English.

Additional Crimestoppers Zones lamppost signs.

Artwork depicting ASB, specifically Off-Road crime.

Advertising

In order to ensure the right messages were distributed to the right audience, social media posts were sent out from

Fearless across Snapchat targeting 13 – 17-year-olds.

Fearless disseminated 1 animation which focused on 'I am not a snitch'.

The Fearless social media ad had huge impact with great engagement resulting in over 11,000 link clicks.

Crimestoppers posts were sent out across Instagram and Facebook targeting people aged over 18 in the Bell Foundry, New Parks and Thringstone and Whitwick.

These posts focussed on:

- ASB
- Drugs
- Reporting information

Crimestoppers social media reached 47,120 people, making 319,990 impressions.

Additional Crimestoppers Zones signs were ordered and erected in the People Zones after a number had been targeted and removed in some areas. These have been replaced.

Crimestoppers campaign deliverables

Crimestoppers and Fearless paid Social Media strategy and plan.

Stakeholder Campaign Pack.

Assets to support the Crimestoppers Zones.

Press release.

Crimestoppers.

We believe everyone has the right to feel safe from crime, wherever they live, wherever they work, for ourselves and all those we care about.

But sometimes people might be worried about a crime, or something that's wrong, and want to pass on information. Which is why it's good to know they can always trust Crimestoppers.

We're an independent charity that gives people the power to speak up and stop crime, 100% anonymously. By phone and online, 24/7, 365 days a year. No police contact. No witness statements. No courts.

Every year we help stop thousands of crimes. So, let's make communities safer together.

Find out more about our work.

Contact us at hello@crimestoppers-uk.org.



People Zones Evaluation 2024 - Summary Document

THE EVALUATION



Mapping for Change were commissioned to undertake an evaluation of the People Zones (PZs) project between March and May 2024. The evaluation looked to assess the effectiveness of PZs against the set of objectives set out in the Theory of Change.

Theory of Change

The objectives can be grouped into five strands of work: Research, Building Partnerships, Community Development, Community Payback, and Communication & Campaigns.

The Process

The evaluation was undertaken using a mixed methods approach of: survey's, interviews, focus groups, round table meetings, pop-up events, data analysis and desk research.



The successful delivery of the Community Leadership Programme has enabled 14 people to go on to get involved with or lead community projects.



The data shows a reduction in crime and anti-social behaviour, as well as people's perception of it.



Community Payback has delivered a number of successful projects with over 1,717 hours accredited to People Zone projects, which have all been well received by the community.



Social media project posts have reached over 9000 people between Jan and May 2024 – this reach is organic and not coming from ads which means the project is spreading through word of mouth.



Training for OPCC staff on ABCD approach delivered and multi-agency steering groups set up in each People Zone.



Over £200,000 invested in 42 community projects and new organisations have applied for funding in the later rounds



2/3 of the people who engaged with the evaluation felt that the greatest change so far has been an improvement in the sense of community.



PZs has been a catalyst for fostering new partnerships between organisations which has led to a reduced reliance on the police. The current PCC, Rupert Matthews, has also made and kept promises, which is important to the Community.



Representatives of the PZs said they had seen a positive effect of projects improving on community spirit, and increased involvement, however more work still needs to be done, focussing on the priority themes within the Zones.



Improved relationships and connections in all People Zones between the local organisations, schools, Community Payback and statutory services.

Community Development

Successes



PZs provide more opportunities to work in collaboration



PZs provide a mechanism to allow organisations to reach out to others and build working relationships, as well as strengthen existing ones.



PZs make inroads to areas in need of Community Payback



PZs have made connections for those working in the zones to network, share best practice and enable joined up thinking



Organisations improved their engagement, way of working, partnerships and networking



Organisations also improved their skills, capacity, number of visitors & users and project awareness

Building Partnerships

Successes



Some survey respondents said the PZ funding was the first grant they had ever received and it had led on to more funding from others



Through grant funded projects, there has been reported increase in skills amongst a diverse group of individuals including lone parents, children and young people, women and girls, lonely boys and men



Reported improvements in health and wellbeing through grant funded projects included: health, healthy eating, mental health, sexual health, drug awareness.



Reported improvements in interpersonal skills through grant funded projects included: confidence, resilience, friendship, character and team building abilities and empowering people to build strong social and community bonds



Reported improvements in skills through grant funded projects included: Employability and administrative skills, CV writing and interview skills, film and media skills, connecting with the environment, growing food, and camp expeditions for young people



Grant Funding

Successes



Across all zones, people reported a positive change in a sense of community and activities for YP. There has been an improvement in opportunities to volunteer in the community, learn new skills, relationships between the Police and the community, and a decrease in isolation and loneliness.



Grant funding allows smaller organisations to access funds to maximise their impact more than before and feel like part of the community. They are also able to choose what they want to do instead of responding to funders requirements, so it means ideas are realised



Over half of the grant recipients said that PZs has helped them to collaborate with other organisations and almost half felt more supported by statutory services since PZs has been running.



Local people reported the desire to set up their own community projects, which would require support, in the form of funding, advice, support and help to promote the project, and a venue/space.



People reported that they most enjoyed being involved in helping others and contributing to the community. Grant funded projects led to an increase in people wanting to get involved in more community initiatives and volunteering

Community Payback

Successes



It was felt that Community Payback has had a direct impact on improving the environment for residents, including litter picking, gardening and maintaining playgrounds.



In total, 71 individuals have put work back into their community because of PZ projects with Community Payback. Up to January 2024, over 1,717 hours have been attributed to PZ projects



It is felt that Community Payback delivers great results and visible changes, showing the value of PZs and long lasting changes



Community Payback projects have been beneficial both for the community and local people on probation who were allocated to projects close to them



Fearon Hall and New Parks Community Hub's Community Gardens have proved of great benefit to the local community, brightened their spaces, made planting produce possible, all of which would have been unlikely to happen without Community Payback labour and PZs funding.



Residents were pleased that the People Zones had enabled projects such as the Bell Foundry alley-way clean up where drug paraphenalia and a knife were found and disposed of. Residents have felt that this has had a positive effect on reducing anti-social behaviour in the area



There is a desire from partners in the People Zones for more Community Payback projects, with plaques displayed to promote the partnership. Partners want PZ funded Community Payback projects to be more visible to communities as it directly affects people living and working in the area

NEW PARKS



“A marked difference”

People now see things happening and know where to go for help. A lot of effort has been focussed on things such as the Aikman Avenue flats and engagement has been positive. There is now an aim and willingness to set up tenants associations and get more community involvement, which is possible with support for members to build confidence and make this happen



New Parks and the Police

In New Parks, PZs have greatly increased the communications between the community and the Police. People now talk to the community police instead of running in the other direction



Perceptions

The People Zones have built up community groups which has helped to reduce Anti-social behaviour in New Parks . The PZs helped to co-ordinate community activists together so that they feel they have a genuine voice. This makes it more sustainable than short term funding. It has given organisations confidence in making decisions and they are being listened to by big organisations



Crime Stats

When comparing crime data from 2022 to 2023, crime increased slightly by 6%. However, the number of victims in New Parks decreased by 30%, which could account for or contribute to the perception of feeling safer

THRINGSTONE & WHITWICK



Challenges

Geographically, it is harder for Thringstone & Whitwick to come together, with it being seen as two villages and the area being more spread out

There are challenges around the organisations working together effectively. With People Zones being a community-led initiative there is a limit to how far the local authorities can get involved, but other organisations don't necessarily have the capacity to lead the whole group and so it can mean organisations going off in different directions.

“Showing Promise”

Projects are still early but show promise. Thanks to ongoing efforts, representatives of the People Zones said they had seen a positive effect of projects on improving community spirit, and increased involvement, however, more work still needs to be done, focusing on the priority themes for the Zones. Whitwick Scouts make programs like DofE affordable and share equipment with local schools.

The Mini Police programme has inspired adult ambassadors, spreading a positive message about the Police to homes.

In T&W, there's been an increase in communication and police presence at steering group meetings. Off-road bikes on Melrose Field have caused complaints, and many reports have gone through Crime Stoppers. The beat team is rethinking how they do surgeries and engage with the community.

There is also a strong pipeline of Community Payback projects to work on in Thringstone & Whitwick.



Crime Stats

When comparing crime data from 2022 to 2023, crime decreased slightly by 5%. As well, the number of victims in T&W decreased by 31%, which could account for or contribute to the perception of feeling safer.

Survey responses for 2023 showed that likelihood of reporting a crime increased from 2022 by 10%



BELL FOUNDRY



Challenges

In Bell Foundry, the biggest issue is drug and alcohol related crime, which is difficult to address. Responses to the survey's in Bell Foundry showed that most people noticed no changes in any aspects, and residents noted most changes for the worse, especially around drugs and alcohol issues and littering.

It was felt that there was very little impact and the CrimeStopper reports were varied. There is a need for more people to stand up and create a neighbourhood watch, but this required more resource to get off the ground than is currently available and the community is not engaging.



Suggestions and Ideas

Funding would be better utilised to improve lighting and CCTV with more visible police presence rather than just attending beat surgeries.

It was noted that police presence is often lacking unless they are dealing with specific issues. However, although once people would have left if a police officer walked in, now they will stay, chat, and have a cup of tea which helps to build relationships at their level.

Educating the community about reporting and building intelligence is crucial. Crime Stoppers and Neighbourhood Link awareness have been helpful, but more can be done, such as police carrying out more walks and door knocks.



Crime Stats

When comparing crime data from 2022 to 2023, crime increased slightly by just over 1%. However, the number of victims in Bell Foundry decreased by 26%, which could account for or contribute to the perception of feeling safer.



Good News

Residents were pleased that PZs had enabled street improvements like the alleyway clean-up, where a knife was recovered from the overgrowth during one clean up. It was also noted that there has not been a return to the same levels of ASB as existed prior to the intervention.

Limehurst Academy also benefitted from connections that were created by the PZs when a Trauma Informed Officer from Public Health was assigned to the school. The school were then successful in PZ and additional external grant funding to create a wellbeing hub and sensory garden for students who struggle in a normal classroom setting. Limehurst has also hosted events to bring people together in the community.

Awareness Challenges



Awareness of the Project

Some groups haven't heard of People Zones and there is a lack of awareness of the project, despite online and offline engagement efforts.

There is some understanding that PZs put money into the community, but the wider message of the project is lost. People know about grant funded projects but don't recognise the link to PZs, only to the organisation that is supporting them.



Messaging and Communication

The messaging of PZs is not clear and there is a general consensus and a call for improved communications, with a consideration for clearer language and messaging.

The concept of PZs is more abstract whereas the projects themselves are more relatable

Awareness Recommendations



Recommendations

- **Improve clarity of PZ partnerships between different organisations so that the connection can be made by the community e.g. Advan collaboration**
- **Make the use of the PZ logo mandatory for any PZ funded project**
- **Provide PZ banners for organisations to display within venues**
- **Keep consistent and simple messaging**
- **Consider distributing a newsletter to communities**

Impact of PZs - Challenges

Awareness and Promotion

Lack of awareness and promotion of PZs hinders the impact that some projects can make, as well as limits opportunities for community led initiatives to apply for funding and support

Steering Groups

Work needs to be done by focussing on the priority themes in the zones. Steering groups need to improve collaborations and share responsibilities

Engagement

There are challenges regarding the level of input from authorities and the PZ team so as not to veer away from the community led ethos, whilst recognising smaller organisations have limited resource. Some local authorities or 'key actors' do not engage in the project

Reluctance

There are some negative feelings towards the project due to it's association with the Police, and lack of understanding that the role of the PCC is political, but the office is not

IMPACT RECOMMENDATIONS

Formulate clear, replicable data collection templates for crime so impact can be compared directly over the years to demonstrate impact

Develop a clear evaluation framework with SMART objectives from which to measure progress and success

Increase awareness of the impact in each PZ

Provide proactive support to projects to increase impact

Continue to foster connections and partnership working

Encourage collaborative working between organisations

Focus on getting buy in from local authorities, parish councils and community leaders

Share workload among steering group members with a clear consensus on the direction and priorities

Facilitate networking between the steering groups to share best practice and lessons learned

Procedural Challenges

1

Funding deadlines are too short

2

The grant application is a barrier for some

3

Delays in receiving funding is a barrier

4

Feelings of mistrust due to lack of transparency with funding

Recommendations

- Reduce the amount of reporting required for grant funded projects
- Consider having a phased grant over a longer period of time for some projects to improve sustainability
- Provide a calendar of funding rounds to allow applicants to plan ahead and work in partnership
- Raise awareness of the ease of the application process and outline the support that is available
- Increase transparency of the decision making process around funding and include steering group members in the decisions
- Make it a condition of grant funding to use PZ branding to raise awareness
- Allow for partnership grant rounds rather than only individual organisations

Next Steps..





PRE-APPLICATION STAGE

- 3 grants rounds per financial year and consideration for a collaborative round
- Announce round opening 4 weeks before open date and alert people via emails and socials
- Upskill Steering Groups on bid writing to enable them to continue this learning into their communities
- Continue to offer bid workshops where there is an appetite

APPLICATION STAGE

- Updated guidance pack with more thorough information and advice as well as outlined expectations. This pack is available on the website even when rounds aren't open
- Recorded a 'how to apply' video
- Example of a 'successful bid' included in application pack
- Sustainability question now included with within application with high weighting attached
- Consideration to Include Steering Group members on grant funding decisions

CO-DESIGNED PROCEDURAL CHANGES

DURING PROJECT

- Changed monitoring to Quarterly rather than monthly
- Implemented 'first month quick check in' for support where needed
- Implemented a RAG rating framework for organisations who do not conform to monitoring expectations
- Mandated organisations who are awarded £5k or over to attend Steering Group
- Changed language within the monitoring forms to allow organisations to feel comfortable to tell us when something isn't going to plan
- Continue to share and promote on socials

POST PROJECT

- Implemented mandatory case study template as part of end of project monitoring
- Invite organisations to annual celebration event
- Support organisations to sustain their project and seek further funding where needed



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“PZs have connected various entities and organisations, and these efforts have started to change community spirit. Positive activities reduce antisocial behaviour and create a more cohesive and happier community”

Thank
you



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Across all Zones, people have noticed a positive change in a sense of community and activities for young people. There has been an improvement in opportunities to volunteer in the community and learn new skills, as well as improved relationships between the Police and the community and in isolation and loneliness.

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