





**Brighton & Hove
City Council**

Community Safety Forum

Title:	Community Safety Forum
Date:	12 December 2011
Time:	4.00pm
Venue	Council Chamber, Hove Town Hall
Members:	Councillors: Duncan (Chair), Barnett, Carden, Deane, MacCafferty, Janio, Morgan, Pidgeon, Robins and Summers, Representatives from Communities of Interest
Contact:	Penny Jennings Democratic Services Officer 01273 291065 penny.jennings@brighton-hove.gov.uk

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COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

The following are requested to attend the meeting:

Representatives from Statutory Services:

Brighton & Hove Primary Care Trust
British Transport Police
East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service
Surrey and Sussex Probation Trust
Youth Offending Team

Representatives of Local Action Teams

Bevendean	North Laine Community Association
Brighton Old Town (formally Regency Old Town)	Patcham
Bristol Estate Community Association	Portland Road & Clarendon Forum
Brunswick & Adelaide	Portslade
Brunswick & Regency Neighbourhood Action Group	Preston Park & Fiveways
Clarendon	Queen's Park and Craven Vale Community Forum
Clifton Montpelier & Powis Community Alliance	Queen's Park
Coombe Road	Rottingdean
Hanover & Elm Grove	Seafront
Goldsmid	St James' Street
Hangleton & Knoll Community Action Forum	Stanmer and Coldean
Hanover	Tarner Community Safety Action Group
Hollingbury	West Hill
Hollingdean	West Saltdean
Kemptown Community Safety Action Group	Whitehawk Crime prevention Forum
London Road	Withdean
Marina	Woodingdean
Meadowview & Tenantry Community Action Group	
Moulsecoomb	

Other Co-opted Members

Age Concern
Area Housing Panels
Brighton & Hove Community and Voluntary Sector Forum
Brighton and Hove Federation of Disabled People
Brighton and Hove Mediation Service
Independent Advisory Group Sussex Police
Domestic Violence Forum
Sussex Central YMCA
Neighbourhood Watch
Older People's Council Racial Harassment Forum
Victim Support
RISE

AGENDA

24. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

- (a) Declaration of Substitutes - Where Councillors are unable to attend a meeting, a substitute Member from the same Political Group may attend, speak and vote in their place for that meeting.
- (b) Declarations of Interest by all Members present of any personal interests in matters on the agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the Members regard the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct.
- (c) Exclusion of Press and Public - To consider whether, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, or the nature of the proceedings, the press and public should be excluded from the meeting when any of the following items are under consideration.

NOTE: Any item appearing in Part 2 of the Agenda states in its heading either that it is confidential or the category under which the information disclosed in the report is exempt from disclosure and therefore not available to the public.

A list and description of the categories of exempt information is available for public inspection at Brighton and Hove Town Halls.

25. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

1 - 8

Minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2011 (copy attached)

26. CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS INCLUDING : RESPONDING TO COMMUNITY SAFETY CONCERNS OF THE LGBT COMMUNITY

27. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

(The closing date for receipt of public questions is 12 noon on 2 December 2011)

No public questions received by date of publication.

28. COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS AND COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

29. IMPORTANT FINDINGS FROM CRIME TRENDS ANALYSIS : DISCUSSION

9 - 20

Report of the Commissioner, Community Safety (copy attached)

Contact Officer: Ruth Condon

Tel: 29-1103

COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

30. NATIONAL COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVES WHICH IMPACT LOCALLY: STANDING ITEM **21 - 26**

This standing item will provide an opportunity for relevant issues to be raised or updated upon.

(a) New approaches to dealing with violence against women and the work of the LGBT Advocate: background paper attached and presentations.

31. LOCAL ISSUES:STANDING ITEM **27 - 30**

This standing item will provide an opportunity for relevant issues to be raised or updated upon.

(a) Reducing alcohol related harm and the “White Night” event Debate;

(b) Soundscape Analysis
Presentation by Matt Eastall: Environmental Improvement Team;

(c) Consultation on Traveller Strategy
Presentation by lead officer, Housing Strategy and Delivery Team;

(d) Meeting the needs of the street population and dealing with street drinking
Presentation by the Commissioner, Community Safety

32. ENHANCING PCSO POWERS **31 - 32**

Joint report of Police and Commissioner, Community Safety (copy attached)

Contact Officer: Linda Beanlands Tel: 29-1115

33. SUSSEX POLICE AUTHORITY: MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13 OCTOBER 2011 **33 - 36**

(copy attached)

34. EAST SUSSEX FIRE AUTHORITY: MINUTES

None available for this meeting.

COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

The City Council actively welcomes members of the public and the press to attend its meetings and holds as many of its meetings as possible in public. Provision is also made on the agendas for public questions to committees and details of how questions can be raised can be found on the website and/or on agendas for the meetings.

The closing date for receipt of public questions and deputations for the next meeting is 12 noon on the fifth working day before the meeting.

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Meeting papers can be provided, on request, in large print, in Braille, on audio tape or on disc, or translated into any other language as requested.

For further details and general enquiries about this meeting contact Penny Jennings, (01273 291065), email penny.jennings@brighton-hove.gov.uk or email democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Date of Publication - Friday, 2 December 2011

COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

Agenda Item 25

Brighton & Hove City Council

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

4.00pm 10 OCTOBER 2011

COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillor Duncan (Chair); Carden, Deane, MacCafferty, Janio, Morgan, Pidgeon, Robins and Summers

Apologies were received from Councillor Barnett

Sussex Police: Chief Superintendent Bartlett and Sergeant Castleton

Communities of Interest: Reverend Stephen Terry, Portland Road and Clarendon Forum; Rachele Howard, Portland Road and Clarendon Forum; Sylvia Howell, Bevendean LAT; Liam Mandeville B & R Nag; Ray Freeman, Bristol Estate; Ted Harman, Tenant Rep Stanmer and Coldean; Derek Peacock, Independent Adviser to Sussex Police; Chris Cooke, St James's Street LAT; John McPhillips, Turner LAT; Christine El-Shabba, Whitehawk Crime Prevention Forum Patricia Weller, Hangleton and Knoll Community Action; Bernard Copelin, Patcham LAT; Clare Tikly Goldsmid LAT; Sue Hansen, Moulsecoomb LAT; Bert Williams, Black History Group and Councillor Mo Marsh, Moulsecoomb LAT

Officers: Linda Beanlands, Commissioner for Community Safety, Simon Court Lawyer and Penny Jennings, Democratic Services Officer

PART ONE

13. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

13a Declaration of Substitutes

13.1 There were none.

13b Declarations of Interest

13.2 There were none.

13c Exclusion of the Press and Public

In accordance with section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 ('the Act'), the Community Safety Forum considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during an item of business on the grounds that it was likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press or public were present during that item, there would be disclosure to them of confidential information (as defined in section 100A(3) of the Act) or exempt information (as defined in section 100I of the Act).

- 13.4 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public be not excluded / excluded from the meeting during consideration of any item on the agenda.

14. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the Community Safety Forum meeting held on X be agreed and signed as a correct record.

15. CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

15a Argus Achievement Awards

- 15.1 The Chair stated that he wished to congratulate everyone who had picked up an "Argus Achievement Award" at the ceremony which had been held the previous week. He especially wished to record especially wished to record the awards received by Chris Cooke and Ray Freeman whose tireless work within their communities helped cumulatively to making the to city safer and contributed to it being such a great place to live. Ray Freeman, who was Chair of the Bristol Estate Community Association had been winner in the "Above and Beyond Category and Chris Cooke, Chair of the St James's Street LAT had been runner up in the same category.

15b PCSO Powers

- 15.2 The Chair stated that he was delighted to report that the previous week a meeting of the Sussex Police's Neighbourhood Policing Scrutiny Committee, of which he was Vice-Chair had ratified a proposal to extend PCSO powers in the city. Following long-running community campaigns, PCSO's would now (if the full police authority gave the scheme its backing at their next scheduled meeting on 12 October), be able to issue Fixed Penalty Notices for Dog Fouling and enforce Designated Public Places Orders prohibiting the public consumption of alcohol where it was accompanied by Anti-Social behaviour.
- 15.3 A report back on progress of this scheme would be provided to the next meeting of the Forum in December.

Travellers

- 15.4 The Chair stated that in concluding his communications he wanted to take the opportunity to say a few words about gypsies and travellers. Balancing the needs of the travelling and settled communities was a key challenge facing the city and indeed

every council in the country. Although the evidence seemed to show that there had been no more gypsies and travellers visiting the city in 2011 than in previous years, the debate had begun to spiral out of control, to the point where racial harassment and violence towards travellers had become a major and some would say the biggest community safety issue facing the city.

- 15.5 Some of those present may have seen an item on the BBC the previous week but for the benefit of those who hadn't he explained that Sussex Police were currently investigating a series of racist remarks and even death threats made to members of the council's Traveller Liaison Team and some travellers themselves. The national shortage of sites could cause tensions between the settled and travelling communities, but he felt sure that everyone would agree that the debate about the council's policy towards travellers must not stray into racial abuse or harassment, but he was becoming increasingly concerned that some meetings and demonstrations in the city had fuelled exactly that sort of language and behaviour. He urged everyone there that day, especially councillor members who really should know better, to bear in mind their responsibility to respect both the law and the principles of community cohesion when debating these issues. At this point Councillor Janio said that he was extremely dissatisfied with the comments made and in consequence would be leaving the meeting.
- 15.6 The Chair continued that a good test would be to substitute the word "black" for the word "traveller" when discussing this issue, for example, a LAT meeting to discuss "The Issue of Travellers in the City" would be as offensive to many as a meeting to discuss "The Issue of Blacks in the City" and would probably be illegal too. More than a fifth of Family of Travellers clients in Brighton and Hove experienced racism; that was clearly unacceptable and everyone had a duty to help to reduce that figure.
- 15.7 In order to help, the council had launched a consultation, available via the council's website, anyone who wanted to participate in an off line way could leave their details with the Clerk to the meeting in order to ensure that they were able to engage in that process. It was important that everyone had the opportunity for their views to be included in relation to the council's proposals, from the short term toleration of some encampments to the delivery of a new permanent Traveller's site in the city, designed to help resolve a set of questions that had blighted community cohesion in the city for decades.

16. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

- 16.1 There were none.

17. COMMUNITY SAFETY ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS AND COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

- 17.1 Councillor MacCafferty referred to the number of police recorded LGBT hate crimes and crime related incidents. In the absence of an umbrella organisation following Spectrum's demise. He was concerned at the impact that potential on-going cuts could have and wanted to know what measures were being taken to ensure that best practice and an inter-agency collaborative approach continued. It was agreed that a

written response would be prepared and sent to Councillor MacCafferty detailing the work carried out in concert with the Council's Equalities Unit and other partners.

- 17.2 Mr Cooke and Mr Peacock stated that although at an early stage they were aware that discussions were taking place with a view to plugging into a Sussex wide umbrella group.

18. CRIME TRENDS AND PERFORMANCE FIGURES

- 18.1 The Forum considered a report of the Strategic Director, Communities describing recent activities and progress relating to priority areas in the Brighton & Hove Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2011-14.
- 18.2 Sergeant Castleton referred to the shift in emphasis which had taken place nationally and at local level towards achieving successful treatment outcomes for those in treatment towards a state of recovery. The CRI Drug Intervention Team (a voluntary organisation which provided services to drug users), supported clients who were at risk of disengaging from drug rehabilitation programmes and also supporting those who had successfully completed treatment to help them sustain their recovery. Work in communities by the Community Against Drugs team was continuing in five neighbourhoods across the city and it was developing an information pack to support families.
- 18.3 It was noted that the city's alcohol misuse programme included a wide range of work related to the drinking culture, availability of alcohol, the night time economy and alcohol treatment. An on-going county wide survey had been undertaken to build up comparatives between alcohol and other issues and the results of this piece of work would be brought forward to future meetings.
- 18.4 In relation to anti-social behaviour a number of problematic street community members had been worked with by the ASB Outreach team who had worked mainly in four city centre locations. In answer to questions Chief Superintendent Bartlett explained that although the overall figures for crime had reduced as it still fell below the 3% reduction target set.
- 18.5 Councillor Summers referred to the submitted table in relation criminal damage which did not appear to have peaked during the summer months as in previous years. Chief Superintendent Bartlett stated that the Police were concerned that in areas where crime had shown reductions there was not an exponential reduction in Police engagement. Fear of crime was a huge issue and there was therefore a commitment to continue to engage with the public at current levels of effectiveness.
- 18.6 Mr Peacock referred to instances where violent crime occurred which did not necessarily result in injuries. Chief Superintendent Bartlett explained that such crimes could still be reported but in recording them other elements could also be relevant for instance whether it was as a result of harassment, for example.
- 18.7 Councillor Robins stated that a number of the figures appeared low but it was difficult without precise comparators to know how these compared with other places. It would be useful if more detail could be given in respect of emerging trends. Councillor

MacCafferty considered that the data provided was useful but it would be useful if there could be a more detailed breakdown of hate crime for example, giving a context to figures for the city in relation to the region as a whole. Mr Cooke stated that hate crimes were a very emotive issue and although the trend was downwards it was also important that under reporting did not occur.

- 18.8 Mr Williams stated that the figures for the summer months, particularly those for violent crime must relate to incidents involving visitors both as perpetrators and victims, particularly if those incidents did not occur in residential areas.
- 18.9 **RESOLVED** - That the contents of the report be noted. The Forum also considered the potential for supporting crime reduction and community safety when their organisations developed and took forward ideas.

**19. NATIONAL COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVES WHICH IMPACT LOCALLY:
STANDING ITEM**

- 19.1 The Forum considered a joint report prepared by the Strategic Director of Communities and Commissioner of Police. The Paper sought to outline some of the implications arising from the election and appointment of Policing and Crime Commissioners (PCC's), which would follow assent of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill. It was anticipated that these appointments would take place in November 2012. The Forum were asked to note and consider the information contained in the report and the likely implications arising therefrom.
- 19.2 The Forum noted that currently the Police Authority had 17 Members and was made up from elected Councillors and independent people, who scrutinised and set the strategic direction of Sussex Police. The Policing and Crime Commissioner would replace the current police authority membership/members in its entirety and would hold the Chief Constable to account. There would however, also be a Police and Crime Panel (PCP) who would in turn hold the Police and Crime Commissioner to account.
- 19.3 Chief Superintendent Bartlett explained that although arrangements had yet to be finalised there would be between seventeen and twenty people on the Police and Crime Panel made up from representatives from the district, borough, unitary and county councils in Sussex together with some independent member representation.
- 19.4 The Chair, Councillor Duncan stated that he was deeply concerned by some aspects of the proposed arrangements, not least lack of representation for/by the city. It seemed unlikely that the Commissioner would come from the city. Given its diversity, the city had its own series of specific challenges and it was hard to see how these would be properly represented by one person who had no knowledge or experience of the city and who was charged with responsibilities for such a large area. On a positive note, he was pleased that cross/agency arrangements were already in place between the various agencies in the city, the council's officers charged with community safety and health responsibilities and the Police and that regular meetings were taking place. He had attended such a meeting earlier that day.

- 19.5 Councillor Morgan concurred in that view stating that in view of the other challenges financial and other wise which Policing was facing the potential implications arising from these changes were great. There were concerns that the costs of setting up and running this model could be of the order of £25m (overall) at a time when the Police were seeking to deliver and maintain services under very challenging conditions. Lobbying had already taken place to invite revision of the current proposals and that had not borne any fruit to date. There was no option to go proceed and plan on the basis of the proposals as they stood. Suggestions made to the Policing Minister to seek to ensure that a local appointment was made had been rejected.
- 19.6 The Forum concurred with the views expressed and all expressed concern regarding the impact (not currently quantifiable) which might well arise.
- 19.7 The Chair, Councillor Duncan echoed concerns expressed in relation to potential costs, a figure of £4million had been mentioned in relation to Sussex alone and it was feared that figure could be higher. It was clear Royal Assent was going to happen and it was important that the council worked very closely with the Police to ensure that existing structures were embedded, this was in hand. Chief Superintendent Bartlett agreed confirming that rigorous arrangements were in place and that discussions were on-going.
- 19.8 Forum Members commented that it did not appear that the proposals had been welcomed anywhere, not least because they seemed rigid and provided little room for manoeuvre.
- 19.9 Councillor .MacCafferty considered that it was important to engage with other countrywide organisations and to continue as appropriate and to lobby government to underline the special nature of the City.
- 19.10 The Commissioner for Community Safety stated that she would be attending a Local Government Association meeting in the near future with Sergeant Castleton and would put the Forum's views across there. A meeting was also scheduled with representatives from the Home Office and options including the possibility of making some special dispensations for the city could be discussed.
- 19.11 Councillor Randall, the Leader of the Council was present and concurred with all that had been said and Forum Members requested that he carry forward their views when this issue as discussed at Cabinet and elsewhere.
- 19.12 Chief Superintendent Bartlett stated that it was intended that the Police would continue to have the same visibility in the city and to work pro-actively with other agencies.
- 19.13 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the Community Safety Forum notes that the Environment and Community Safety Forum is to consider a report on the implications for governance and accountability of the introduction of a Police and Crime Commissioner, at its meeting scheduled to take place on 31 October. The Forum also notes that the matter will then be referred to Cabinet for a fuller discussion.

(2) The Community Safety Forum also requests that the Environment and Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet consider and take notice of the views expressed by the Forum at their meeting today.

20. LOCAL ISSUES: STANDING ITEM

(a) Intelligent Commissioning Pilot on Alcohol

- 20.1 The Commissioner for Community Safety gave a presentation detailing the initiatives which had arisen as a result of the Intelligent Commissioning pilot on alcohol which had the longer term aim of seeking to reduce alcohol related harm in the City.
- 20.2 Dr. Scanlon the Director of Public Health was present and gave a presentation detailing his perspective on this issue and alluded to the cross cutting/inter agency approach which had been and would continue to be adopted in tackling the many issues including domestic violence which arose as a result of alcohol abuse. Whilst it should not be lost sight of that alcohol was an enjoyable social activity which contributed to a vibrant local economy the effects of alcohol misuse placed a heavy burden on a range of local services. It was a national problem but there were particular issues in relation to it in the city as when misused it could give rise to physical and mental health issues, result in accidents, risk of harm to children and young people and crime and disorder. The estimated to cost to city services was £106.4 million per year.
- 20.3
- 20.4 The Commissioner for Community Safety explained that lots of creative action had been taken over the years e.g., Cumulative Impact Assessments Test and Proxy Purchasing toperations, Designated Public Places orders, Safe Space, the Brief Interventions Service, the RUOK service for young people, Police Initiatives such as Operations Marble and Park, and the Street Pastors and Taxi Marshalling schemes. Notwithstanding all of these initiatives

20.-- **RESOLVED** - That the position be noted.

(b) Community Resolution

20.--

20.-- **RESOLVED** - That the position be noted.

21. SUSSEX POLICE AUTHORITY: MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 JULY 2011

21.1 **RESOLVED** – That the contents of the minutes be noted.

22. EAST SUSSEX FIRE AUTHORITY: MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8 SEPTEMBER 2011

22.1 **RESOLVED** – That the contents of the minutes be noted.

23. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

23.1 It was noted that future meetings of the Forum were scheduled to be held on the following dates from 4.00pm in the Council Chamber at Hove Town Hall:

- Monday 12 December 2011; and
- Monday 12 March 2012

The meeting concluded at 6.20pm

Signed

Chairman

Dated this

day of

COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

Agenda Item 29

Brighton & Hove City Council

Report to Community Safety Forum – 12th December 2011

Subject: Crime trends and performance in Brighton & Hove, Position up to October 2011

Contact Officer: Name: *Ruth Condon* Tel: 29-1103

E-mail: ruth.condon@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Wards Affected: All

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report describes recent activities and progress relating to priority areas in the [Brighton & Hove Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2011-14](#). It refers to some recent activities and also provides statistical updates relating to the first seven months of 2011/12, ie. April to October 2011 (or the most recent available).
- 1.2 Graphs showing monthly crime data going back to April 2007 are also provided. These enable recent data to be considered in the context of both longer term trends and also seasonal crime cycles (where applicable).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (1) The Community Safety Forum notes the information provided in this report and is invited to:
 - i) Feedback on any developments from their community or organisation's experience which may help the understanding and interpretation of the data and trends contained in this report.
 - ii) Consider the potential for supporting crime reduction and community safety priorities within their own organisation or local community.

3. INFORMATION:

Total Police-recorded Crime

- 3.1 Between April and October 2011 there were a total of 14,400 police recorded crimes, 1.1% fewer than in the same months of 2010/11 but falling short of the 3% reduction target.

Neighbourhoods and Quality of Life

- 3.2 In the first seven months of 2011/12, although seasonal increases are evident, there has been a good reduction in police recorded criminal damage (down 4.4%). However, fire service recorded non-accidental fires have increased (up by 8%) compared with the first seven months of 2010/11. Over the summer months numbers of non-accidental fires were fewer this year than last, and although numbers have fallen somewhat since then, the increase compared with last year is mainly a consequence of unusually low numbers over the winter months last year. The Fire and Rescue Service undertake education campaigns with schools and in particular areas, for instance the Safer Scoombe project earlier this year. Each primary school age child gets at least two education visits from during their primary years and this is now being extended to secondary school children. They work with the council to identify and remove abandoned vehicles and areas of excessive rubbish that might be set on fire.
- 3.3 The council has been working with residents and students in the community to ensure public safety concerns are considered at the planning stages of developments and inform improvements to public spaces. Street noise has been raised as an issue for residents and a project involving the Noise Abatement Society and Local Action Teams is underway to identify and map specific issues of concern to residents.
- 3.4 During 2010/11 police recorded cycle thefts increased by 13%, but the 2011/12 results up to October are showing a 6.5% decrease. This is mainly on account of relatively low numbers during the summer months of July and August in 2011. Work to prevent cycle theft includes the provision of additional cycle parking places, and ongoing delivery of messages to cyclists to encourage correct locking practices.

Drugs Misuse

- 3.5 The Intelligent Commissioning Pilot on drug-related deaths has reinforced the profile of this important area of work. Work prioritised includes extending the roll out of training related to administering naloxone as an antidote to opiate (eg. heroin) overdoses in emergency situations; reducing inappropriate benzodiazepine prescribing; and improving intelligence sharing.
- 3.6 Having reduced waiting times and increased the number of people accessing treatment, local drug treatment services are now focusing on improving treatment effectiveness and the proportion of successful treatment outcomes. Latest data (Apr-Jun 2011) show that 49% of those exiting treatment are classed as having completed treatment successfully. This figure is an improvement on the result of 32% for 2010/11.
- 3.7 The Families Conference organised by the Community Against Drugs team highlighted the significant and often under-utilised role of families and carers in contributing to the recovery of a family member, as well as the support services that families require.
- 3.8 Many repeat offenders are people who misuse drugs, and a high percentage of the crimes they commit are acquisitive crimes. In the first seven months of 2011/12 all acquisitive crimes (incl. theft/handling, burglary and robbery) increased by 5.9%

compared with the same period in 2010/11. However, for serious acquisitive crimes (burglary, vehicle crime and robbery) there was a decrease of 6.9%. Substantial increases in 'lower level' thefts continue, especially in theft from person (up 40%) with shoplifting also continuing to show a rise (up 10%).

Alcohol Misuse and Alcohol-related Disorder

- 3.9 Alcohol-related hospital admissions continue to show an upwards trend since the beginning of 2010.
- 3.10 The number of police recorded injury assaults has reduced by 20% in the first seven months of 2011/12 compared with the same months in 2010/11. This is a very good start against the 3% reduction target.
- 3.11 The city's alcohol misuse action plan includes a wide range of work related to the the four themes of: drinking 'culture'; availability of alcohol; the night time economy; and alcohol treatment. The Big Alcohol Debate was launched in October to engage the public on the issue of alcohol and to develop insights from different target groups. It will run until the end of December 2011 and a report on its findings to inform future policy will be produced by the end March 2012.
- 3.12 The density and diversity of licensed premises is managed by the Statement of Licensing Policy. This is being reviewed with a view to expanding the cumulative impact zone and introducing a matrix to ensure there is a consistent approach to licensing decisions. The White Night initiative, which was held at the end of October, provides an example of the availability of a range of different night time activities which can be enjoyed as an alternative to activities offered by the traditional licensed night time economy.
- 3.13 Licensed businesses are making positive steps towards ensuring they manage their premises to a consistently high standard via the Inn-Credible scheme. However, the cost differential of alcohol between premises with on- and off-licences remains significant and results in alcohol being highly affordable and being consumed under less controlled circumstances when purchased from premises with an off-licence. A joint letter has been written to the Treasury to lobby for differential rates of tax to be imposed on alcohol sold at on- and off-licensed premises.
- 3.14 The number of people receiving treatment for alcohol misuse continues to increase. A focus has been around improved training for staff at GP surgeries to identify and screen for alcohol misusers.

Anti-Social Behaviour

- 3.15 From the telephone survey carried out by the police between June and September 2011 (inclusive), 15% out of the 507 city residents surveyed reported perceiving one or more of 6 types of anti-social behaviour as a problem in their local area. The highest levels of perceived ASB related to drunk and disorderly behaviour and litter in the police central district (city centre). For people in the east district, litter and vandalism were of most concern, while for the west district (Hove) drug or alcohol-related problems were the most important issue.

- 3.16 The ASB Street Outreach Team continue to work with the street community and have worked with 65 street drinkers and 5 beggars across 5 hotspot areas between July and September. Research has been undertaken to obtain feedback from victims and witnesses of anti-social behaviour into their views on the response by city services to their problems. Among other things it has found inconsistencies in the standard of services offered across the different city services when dealing with anti-social behaviour and points to aspects where improvements can be made. Within the Partnership Community Safety Team, the Anti-Social Behaviour and Hate Crime Teams have been integrated into a single Casework Team, providing support to the most vulnerable victims and witnesses.

Domestic Violence

- 3.17 In the first 6 months of 2011/12 44% of domestic violence crimes were solved. This is below the result of 49% during 2010/11. 78% of DV court cases in the first half of 2011/12 resulted in a conviction. Although the position has slipped slightly since the position in the previous report, this remains at an improved level compared with the final position of 67% in 2010/11.
- 3.18 The intelligent commissioning process around domestic violence resulted in an action plan based on a detailed needs assessment. The strategic outcome has been agreed as "Brighton & Hove residents and communities to be free from domestic violence by increasing survivor safety, reducing the risk posed by perpetrators, decreasing social tolerance and increasing people's ability to have healthy relationships". The domestic violence action plan lays out many different areas of work and is owned by a range of partners who are responsible for taking it forward and embedding new approaches within their work.
- 3.19 Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences which map out multi-agency responses to support high risk victims of domestic violence have recently increased in the frequency with which they meet (from monthly to fortnightly) in order to be able to respond to an increase in referrals.
- 3.20 Particular areas of work which need to be developed include developing work in schools around domestic and sexual violence, capacity building within the community to increase resilience among those at risk, developing work place policies and procedures and early intervention work through GPs and others.

Sexual Offences

- 3.21 The number of police recorded serious sexual offences in the first seven months of 2011/12 was 162, a decrease of 5.3% from the same months in 2010/11. Although a reduction in sexual offences is our aim, we are at the same time looking to increase reporting of sexual crimes and incidents when they happen. In the first 6 months of 2011/12, 21% of serious sexual offences were detected by the police.
- 3.22 As well as increasing reporting, we also aim to increase the chances of the perpetrator being convicted. In the first half of 2011/12 73% of finalised court cases for (all) sexual offences resulted in a conviction. This is an increase on the position in 2010/11 and the Independent Sexual Violence Advisor service continues to support victims as they pursue their case through the criminal justice process.

3.23 A proportion of sexual offences come to the attention of the police and other services months and sometimes years after the event happened. However, there is a focus on encouraging and enabling victims to gain access to services at a much earlier stage since this would have various positive effects, including preventing further offences, bringing the perpetrator to justice and assisting the victim's recovery.

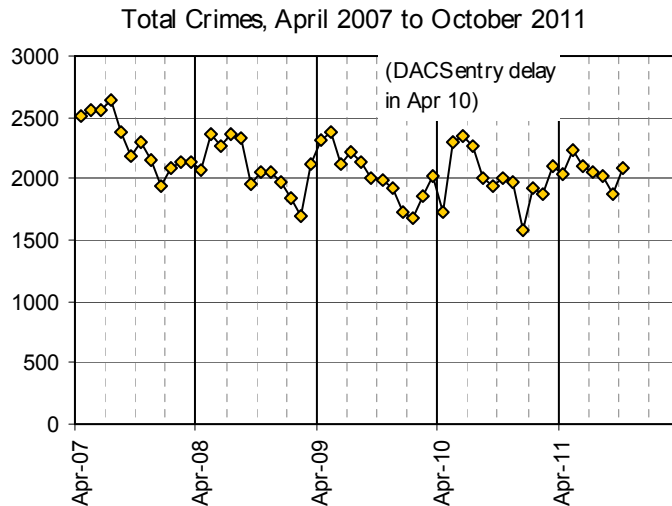
Hate Incidents and Crimes

3.24 The number of police-recorded **racist and religiously motivated incidents and crimes** have continued to decline in the first half of 2011/12. The percentage of prosecutions resulting in a conviction continues its year on year rise and was 85% in the first half of 2011/12. The Racial Harassment Forum, a multi-sector partnership with a Community Chair and Vice Chair, continues to meet regularly and is a key good practice initiative to improve trust and confidence of the communities. The Forum monitors progress on the Strategy and scrutinises levels and trends of hate incidents in the city. Issues of right wing extremism, policing of demonstrations and the recording and reporting of hate incidents in the NHS have been the focus of work in the past six months.

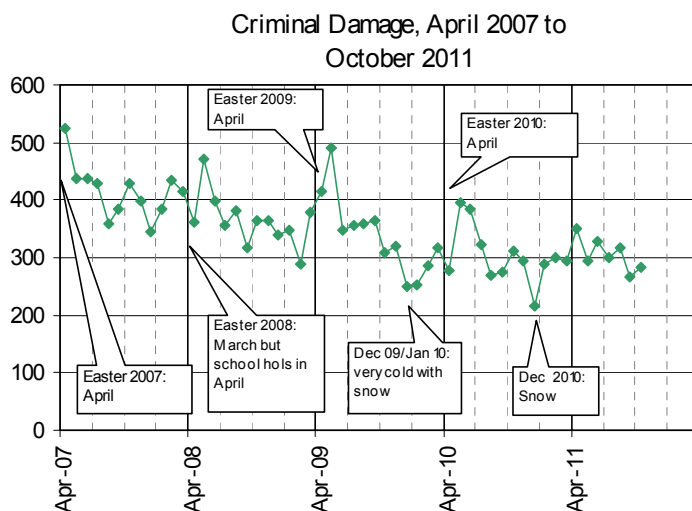
3.25 In the first six months of 2011/12 there have been 39 **LGBT hate incidents and crimes** recorded by the police, 17% fewer than in the same months in 2010/11. 16 crimes have been detected and 13 resulted in a charge being made. So far there have been 11 prosecutions finalised at court and all of these resulted in a conviction, which is a very good result. A review of the way LGBT and other forms of hate crimes are identified and monitored by the police is to be undertaken to see whether there are improvements that can be made. DV and LGBT DV service providers, partner organisations and supporters are ensuring the LGBT DV resources are distributed across frontline services and that training is provided to maximise the impact of these resources. There is an online resource being developed for reporting and cataloguing city-wide responses for transphobic harassment and assault.

3.26 There have been 11 **disability Hate Incident** Report Forms received in the first half of 2011/12. The police have just one disability hate crime and one crime related incident during the same period, with none being recorded in the most recent 3 months. Once at court the 4 cases which have been concluded in the first half of 2011/12 have all resulted in a conviction. However, the number of reports remains disappointing low, despite the publicity campaign and new resources and 16 reporting centres as reported previously. Work to encouraging reporting remains a priority and includes further training of staff at the reporting centres and outreach work. A caseworker with Interact (an advocacy group for people with learning disability) is available to support victims and witnesses of crimes with a learning disability.

Crime trends up to August 2011



3.27 Total number of crimes between Apr and Aug numbered between about 2,000 and 2,250 each month, dropping below 2,000 during Sep¹. Numbers rose again in Oct, reflecting a steep increase in theft offences during that month.



3.28 There is continued good progress with the downward trend in criminal damage. Numbers in Sept and Oct were below those experienced in these same months in the last few years.

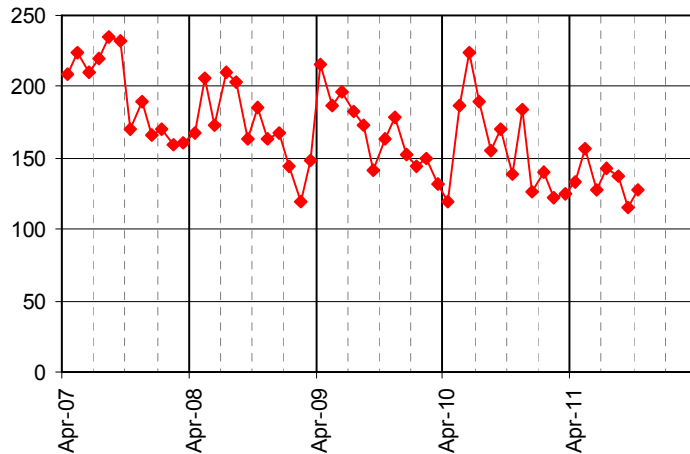
¹ There was a delay in entering crimes into the police data recording system in April 2010, so numbers are showing fewer in that month, and numbers in the following two months are consequently higher than they would otherwise have been. This effect is seen in a number of the crime types shown in this document.

COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

Agenda Item 29

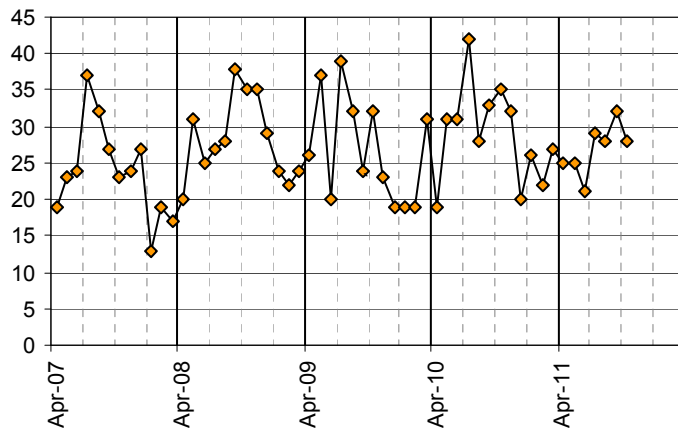
Brighton & Hove City Council

All Injury Violence
April 2007 to October 2011



3.29 There was a clear reduction in injury violence offences this summer compared with last year and this has continued into the autumn months. This applies to both serious violence and less serious violence.

Sexual Offences
April 2007 - October 2011



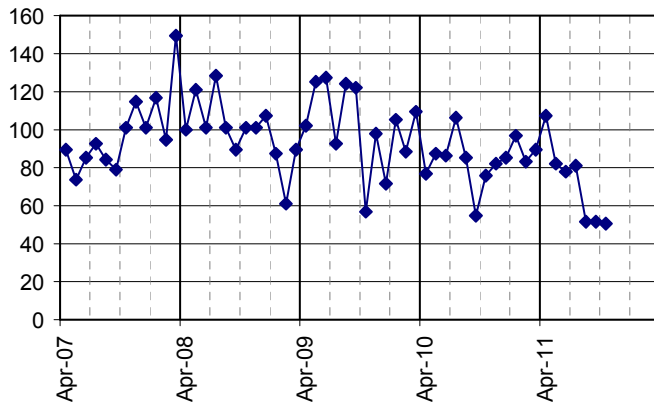
3.30 The summer did not experience the anticipated seasonal increase, but numbers in Sept and Oct are roughly on par with previous years. Sexual offences are likely to be highly underreported.

COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

Agenda Item 29

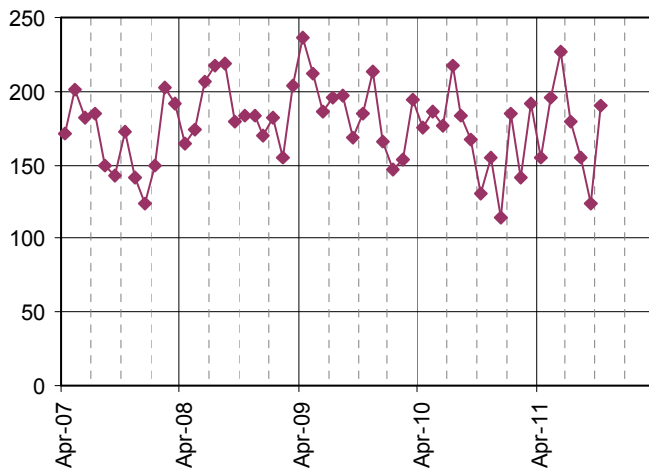
Brighton & Hove City Council

Domestic Burglary, April 2007 to October 2011



3.31 There has been a long term declining trend in domestic burglaries. Monthly numbers between Aug and Oct 2011 have been consistently below 55, lower than any point since April 2007.

Vehicle Crime, April 2007 to October 2011



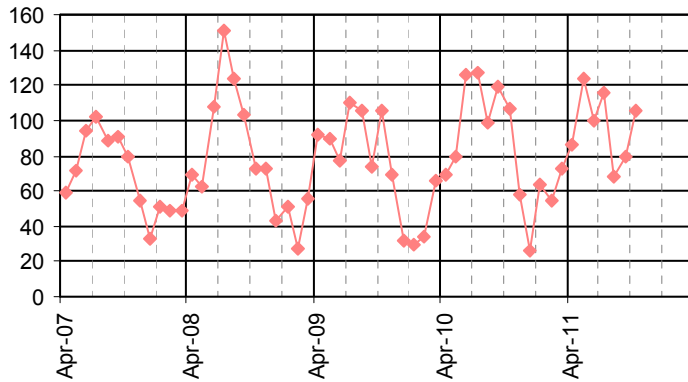
3.32 Numbers of vehicle crimes have fluctuated over the past few months, mainly due to variations in the number of thefts from vehicles which outnumber thefts of vehicles by about 3 to 1.) The current trend in thefts from vehicles is upwards, while that of thefts of vehicles is downwards.

COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

Agenda Item 29

Brighton & Hove City Council

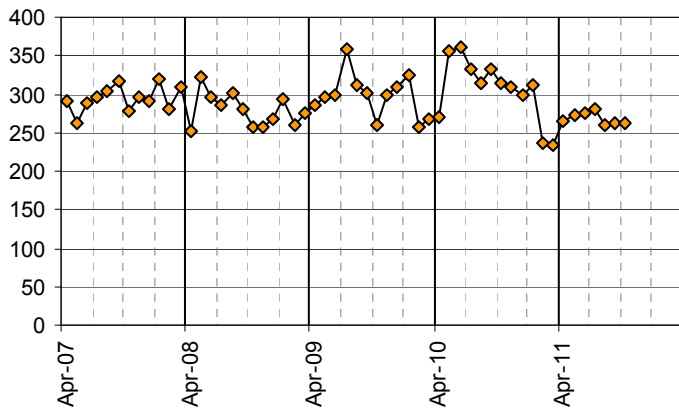
Theft of a Pedal Cycle,
April 2007 to October 2011



3.33 Usually higher numbers of cycle thefts tend to occur in the summer months. However, the numbers in Aug and Sept were lower than might have been expected.

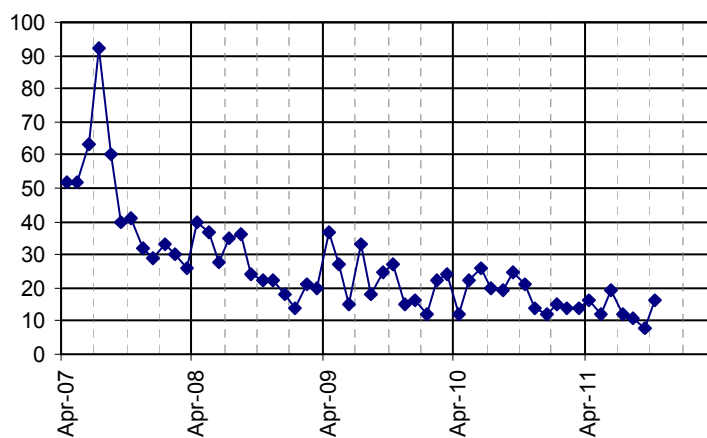
3.34 Police crime data presented in this report only reflect those crimes which are reported and recorded. There is likely to be a level of underreporting in many crime types. However, domestic violence and the hate crimes on this page are particularly liable to underreporting.

Domestic Violence Crimes and Incidents,
April 2007 - October 2011



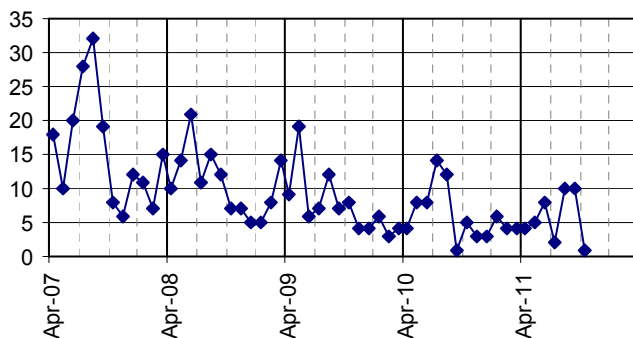
3.35 The number of domestic violence crimes and crime-related incidents recorded in the last nine months has been much lower than during most of 2010, and lower than in the same months the previous year.

Racist and Religiously Motivated Crimes and Incidents (police crime database),
April 2007 to October 2011



3.36 The declining trend in racist and religiously motivated incidents and crimes appears to be continuing. There were only 8 recorded in Sept, which is first month the number has dropped below 10 for a number of years.

LGBT Hate Crimes and crime-related Incidents
(police crime database),
Apr 2007 to October 2011



3.37 The number of police-recorded LGBT hate crimes and crime-related incidents and has remained at ten or below for over a year. Aug and Sept saw the highest number (ten) over this period, but only 1 was recorded in Oct.

COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

Agenda Item 29

Brighton & Hove City Council

Performance data for key crime types, 2011/12

Police recorded crimes	number of crimes Apr 10 – Oct 10	number of crimes Apr 11 – Oct 11	reduction target (from 2010/11 baseline)	performance against target to date		rank within 15 benchmarked CSPs ²
Total Crimes	14580	14418	-3%		not on target	7
Criminal Damage	2237	2138	-5%		not on target	13
Injury Violence ³	1183	943	-3%	on target		6 ⁴
Sexual Offences	219	188	-	-		n/a ⁵
Domestic Burglary	572	503	-	-		2
Theft from/of a Motor Vehicle	1237	1226	-	-		2
Pedal Cycle Theft	726	679	-	-		5
Domestic Violence Crimes and Incidents	2280	1879	-	-		n/a
Racist/Religiously motivated Crimes and Incidents	145	94	-	-		n/a
LGBT Hate Crimes and Incidents	52	40	-	-		n/a

² Brighton & Hove is matched for comparative purposes with 14 other Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) according to a range of socio-demographic and geographic variables. A rank of 1 is the best; 15 is the worst; 8 is the middle position.

³ As defined by Sussex Police

⁴ iQuanta category 'wounding (serious and other)'

⁵ Because sexual offences, DV and hate crimes are subject to underreporting and local work is being undertaken to increase reporting of these crimes, it is not appropriate to judge performance in comparison with other Community Safety Partnerships based on the number of police recorded crimes.

COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

Agenda Item 29

Brighton & Hove City Council

Disability Hate Crimes and Incidents	2 (to Sep)	2 (to Sep)	-	-	n/a

COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM	Agenda Item 30 Brighton & Hove City Council
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Report to Community Safety Forum: 12 December 2011

Subject: Background Paper for Agenda Item 30:

New approaches to dealing with 'violence against women' and an update on the work of the *Rise* LGBT Independent Domestic Violence Advocate

Contact Office Name: **Eleri Butler** Tel: **29-1032**

E-mail: Eleri.Butler@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Wards Affecte All

1. Introduction and purpose of report

- 1.1 UK governments have national strategies for addressing and preventing 'violence against women' crime types, which recommend every local area develops a coordinated approach to responding to and preventing violence against women. These crime types include:
- domestic violence,
 - rape and sexual violence,
 - female genital mutilation,
 - forced marriage,
 - crimes in the name of 'honour',
 - stalking,
 - sexual harassment,
 - sexual exploitation, including trafficking and the sex industry (prostitution and pornography).
- 1.2 Brighton and Hove has made a commitment to develop a Violence against Women strategy and action plan by the Spring, as set out in the Community Plan. Having a coordinated approach to addressing violence against women does not mean local services will neglect the abuse directed towards men and boys or perpetrated by women. Community safety and other statutory services will continue to provide services to all victims of crime and aim to bring all offenders to justice.
- 1.3 This background paper sets out why we need a new approach to address 'violence against women' in the city, and includes a summary of the awareness-raising events (Appendix A) held locally to mark the International '16 Days' to end violence against women (November 25 – December 10). A presentation will be delivered at the Forum meeting, which will:
- Summarise the work being done now to address violence against women and what this new approach to preventing violence against women will involve.
 - Provide an update on the work being done by the specialist Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (LGBT IDVA), commissioned by the partnership community safety team, and delivered by *Rise*, the local specialist independent domestic violence service.

2.0 Recommendation

2.1 That Community Safety Forum members contribute their views on how violence against women can be reduced and prevented in the city, and provide feedback on the work of the LGBT IDVA service presented at the Forum meeting.

3.0 **Background**

3.1 'Violence against women' is defined by the UK government (and internationally) as '*violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman, or that affects women disproportionately*'.

3.2 Every year in the UK 3 million women experience rape, domestic violence, forced marriage, stalking, sexual exploitation and trafficking, female genital mutilation or 'honour' crimes.

3.3 Worldwide violence against women and girls is a problem of pandemic proportions, and research indicates the vast majority of these violent acts are perpetrated by men and are experienced by women. In the UK:

3.3.1 More than one in four women will experience domestic violence in their lifetime and 89% experience repeat violence, often with years of psychological abuse. In 2009/10, women were the victim of over seven out of ten (73%) incidents of domestic violence (there were over 1 million female victims of domestic violence in England and Wales in the last year).

3.3.2 Over 400,000 women are sexually assaulted and 80,000 women are raped each year, and around 66,000 women who have experienced female genital mutilation are living in England and Wales. In 2010 the Forced Marriage Unit received 1,735 reports relating to forced marriage.

3.3.3 Home Office research shows 85 per cent of women in prostitution report physical abuse in the family and 45 per cent report familial sexual abuse; between 50-75% of women in prostitution entered before they were 18 years old; 95% of women trafficked into prostitution suffer physical and sexual abuse, with the same number experiencing symptoms of trauma similar to those suffered by torture victims.

3.3.4 The cost of providing public services (including health, legal and social services) to victims and the lost economic output of women affected by violence runs to billions of pounds each year. An indicative figure for the minimum and overlapping cost of violence against women and girls is £36.7 billion annually.

3.4 In Brighton and Hove women are disproportionately victims of domestic and sexual violence and abuse:

3.4.1 It is estimated that over 25,000 women and nearly 2,000 men could experience repeat domestic violence as adults, *at some point in their lives*; and nearly 55,000 women could *at some point in their lives* experience rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, female genital mutilation, forced marriage, trafficking and sexual exploitation (Domestic Violence Needs Assessment 2011, based on Home Office research).

- 3.4.2 Last year, it is estimated that between 5,389 and 10,984 women could have experienced domestic violence; 2,736 women could have experienced sexual assault, and 6,682 women could have been a victim of stalking (Domestic Violence Needs Assessment 2011, based on Home Office research).
- 3.4.3 Local police data on recorded sexual offences in 2008 and 2009 show that 89% of victims of police recorded sexual offences were female and 11% were male. In 2009/10 there were 328 police recorded sexual offences recorded by the police.
- 3.4.4 In 2009/10 there were 3,359 police recorded domestic violence crimes and incidents, of which 85% had male suspects/ offenders (the majority of these were intimate partners). 78% of police recorded domestic violence crimes and incidents were committed against women and 22% were committed against men.
- 3.4.5 Domestic violence also has a detrimental impact on children and young people and is the most common principal reason for children having a child protection plan in place.
- 3.4.6 Based on the local LGBT population, one in four - 8,750 lesbians, gay men, bisexual and transgender people - will experience abuse at some point in their lives.
- 3.5 Violence against women is both a cause and consequence of gender inequality; women and girls are more likely to be victims than men and boys, and young women in particular suffer higher levels of victimisation. Work to reduce and prevent violence against women is therefore central to the delivery of gender, as well as other, equality duties.
- 3.6 A coordinated approach is needed for these violence against women crime types because:
- women and girls are the substantial majority of victims of these crime types and many experience multiple abuse in their lifetime;
 - most often the perpetrators are men they know or are in relationship with;
 - the context is frequently one of abuse of power by men (or a group of men) to control their female victims (e.g. forcing them into marriage, prostitution, pornography or sex).
 - The gendered patterns and dynamics involved need to be acknowledged and understood in order to provide a coordinated approach to prevention and deliver appropriate and effective services.
- 3.7 The national White Ribbon Campaign, which is led by men, calls on all men to take more responsibility for ending violence against women and to work with women to prevent it. Cities and towns across the country are encouraged to work towards achieving 'White Ribbon City Status' by (1) increasing awareness, (2) involving men in prevention activities (3) altering attitudes and behaviour that lead to violence against women, and (4) providing services to reduce the impact of violence and abuse.
- 3.8 On 25 November (International Day to End Violence Against Women) a press release was issued to raise awareness of violence against women locally and the help available. Senior public figures in the city indicated their individual support for the White Ribbon Campaign pledge: to "*never to commit, condone, or remain silent about violence against women in all its forms.*" The press release is here: <http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/index.cfm?request=c1256814>.

3.9 *Brighton & Hove '16 Days' campaign brings together the events happening in and around the International 16 days to End Violence Against Women, between November 25th and December 10th. See the [16 Days brochure](#) (attached) for a summary of events that were held in and around the Brighton & Hove 16 Days. Alongside these events, the police used social media to highlight different aspects of their work in relation to these crime types.*

Eleri Butler, Domestic and Sexual Violence Strategic Coordinator, November 2011.

Local help

RISE
01273 622822

Domestic violence crisis and ongoing support
www.riseuk.org.uk

SURVIVORS NETWORK
01273 720110/203380

Support for rape and sexual violence
www.survivorsnetwork.org.uk

POLICE ANTI-VICTIMISATION UNIT
0845 6070 999 (for non-emergencies)
In an emergency ring **999**

Also see www.safeinthecity.info

National help

FREE 24HR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELPLINE
0808 2000 247

www.womensaid.org.uk

FREE RAPE CRISIS HELPLINE
0808 802 9999

www.rapecrisis.org.uk

FREE MEN'S ADVICE LINE
0808 801 0327

For men experiencing domestic violence
www.mensadvice.org.uk

BROKEN RAINBOW
0300 999 5428

LGBT Domestic Violence Helpline
www.broken-rainbow.org.uk

FREE RESPECT PHONELINE
0808 802 4040

For domestic violence perpetrators
www.respectphoneline.org.uk

Brighton & Hove 16 Days marks the international 16 days of action for the elimination of violence against women that falls between 25 November (the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women) and 10 December (International Human Rights Day).

Violence against women is defined by the UK government as violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman, or that affects women disproportionately.

Locally, it is estimated that over 25,000 women could experience repeat domestic violence at some point, and nearly 55,000 women could at some point in their lives experience rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment, female genital mutilation, forced marriage, trafficking and sexual exploitation.

In Brighton and Hove last year it is estimated that:

- nearly 11,000 women will have experienced domestic violence
- nearly 3,000 women will have experienced sexual assault, and
- nearly 7,000 women will have been a victim of stalking.

(Source: Domestic Violence Needs Assessment 2011)

Brighton & Hove 16 Days

25 November -
10 December 2011

A programme of events to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and the following 16 days of action.

Brighton & Hove 16 Days backs the White Ribbon Campaign which is working to end male violence against women.



Make your pledge

I pledge never to commit, condone, or remain silent about men's violence against women in all its forms
www.whiteribboncampaign.co.uk

Safe in the city

Brighton & Hove
Community Safety
Partnership



16 Days events

Brighton & Hove 16 Days aims to raise awareness of the problem of violence against women, and the need to prevent it, and highlight the connections between violence against women and human rights.



Thursday 17 November 2011

9.30am - 4.30pm

Sussex University, Falmer, Brighton
Professional By Experience: Violence Against Women National Conference
conference@riseuk.org.uk
www.riseuk.org.uk



Thursday 24 November 2011

3 - 8pm

Jubilee Library, Jubilee Street, Brighton
Rise Living Library event
info@riseuk.org.uk
www.riseuk.org.uk



Friday 25 November 2011

6 - 8.00pm

The Grand Hotel, Kings Road, Brighton
International Day to End Violence Against Women

Survivors Network 21st Celebration & Debate on preventing sexual violence
Book a place by emailing:
admin@survivorsnetwork.org.uk
www.survivorsnetwork.org.uk



Monday 28 November 2011

6:30pm

Duke of York's Picturehouse
Preston Circus, Brighton

Documentary screenings - The Marina Experiment, 2009, Director, Marina Lutz and The Ballad of Genesis & Lady Jaye (15), 2011, Director, Marie Losier (65 mins)
www.picturehouses.co.uk/cinema/Duke_Of_Yorks



Wednesday 30 November 2011

7.30 - 9.30pm

Dome Pavilion Theatre, New Road, Brighton
Hurried Steps, performance and audience / panel discussion

Tickets: FREE tickets@brightondome.org
www.brightondome.org

Charity Chuckle

Tuesday 6 December 2011

8pm

Komedia, Gardner Street, Brighton

Stand-Up to End Violence against Women: Zoe Lyons, Jo Neary, Kate Smurthwaite, Julie Jepson, Jonwayne Connolly and Darren Maskell.
www.komedia.co.uk
www.charitychuckle.co.uk



Friday 25 November 2011

6.30pm

Duke of York's Picturehouse,
Preston Circus, Brighton
International Day to End Violence Against Women

Film screening of Martha Marcy May Marlene (15), Director Sean Durkin
www.cine-city.co.uk/films/martha-marcy-may-marlene/



Saturday 26 November 2011

6pm

Whitehall Place, London

Women-only march, Reclaim The Night March followed by mixed rally/event
www.reclaimthenight.org

Report to Community Safety Forum: 12th December 2011

Subject: Reducing Alcohol Related Harm & White Night Analysis

Contact Officer: Name: *Linda Beanlands* Tel: **29-1115**

E-mail: Linda.beanlands@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Wards Affected: All

1. Introduction and purpose of report

- 1.1 The Intelligent Commissioning Pilot on reducing alcohol related harm made many recommendations aimed at achieving four key outcomes. One of those is seeking a city wide cultural shift which changes the tolerance to problematic drinking. This outcome is also strongly supported by those who are responding to the Big Alcohol debate which was the subject of a progress report to the last meeting of the Community Safety Forum.
- 1.2 One way of achieving a cultural shift, is creating events in which people can enjoy themselves when out and about in the city without resorting to excessive drinking. The cities annual White Nights event is one such way and is seen as a successful model which could be built upon at other times during the year. To help inform the thinking, the Community Safety Forum are invited to consider the analysis of this years event.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That considering the information presented below, the Community Safety Forum give their views on how the White Nights event can further contribute to the reduction of alcohol related harm in the city through changing the culture of drinking. The views of the Forum will contribute to a fuller evaluation which is to be completed within coming weeks.

3.0 Background

- 3.1 The White Night event is Brighton & Hove's established free all night art and cultural event and celebrates the clocks going back. It is an opportunity for those who don't usually enjoy the city at night time to experience the richly diverse parts of the city and its residents.

- 3.2 In 2011 the size of the festival was the biggest year yet, with an audience of 45,000, 76 events and more than 250 performances created especially for the night. Venues included the Royal Pavilion, Jubilee Square, Old Steine, the seafront, Queens Park, a laundrette and the open market.
- 3.3 The theme was Utopia and featured partnerships with more than 100 organisations as diverse as Phoenix, the Noise Abatement Society, Black History Month, the Adult Learning Group, University of Sussex and the Cowley Club. Many cafes and restaurants opened late and some were involved as venues.
- 3.4 The aim was to provide an alternative to licensed venues. Three projects sought to directly engage young people in the festival programme, including an event collective at the Museum, a 'Youthtopia' at Brighton Youth centre and 'Brighton Remixed' at Imperial Arcade which involved a training organisation for those young people who not in education, training or employment. There were 24 new commissions, 20 family-focused events, 20 participatory activities and 23 talks and debates in three of the city's independent cafes.
- 3.5 The age range of those enjoying the events was very broad particularly from within cultural venues. An on street survey indicated that the largest attending age group was 35-44 years (29%) followed by 20-24 and 25-34 (22% each). Under 20 was 6% and over 55 was 8%. 78% were B&H residents. 94% of those surveyed think White Night is important to the city and 96% feel extremely or reasonably safe.
- 3.6 **Evaluation:** Sussex Arts Marketing are undertaking an evaluation of the festival which will be completed by the end of November. This evaluation will be informed by information from two debrief and evaluation meetings with artists, venues, agencies involved in the planning and those who provided security (police, licensing, traffics and corporate health and safety, fire service, ambulance and first aid providers and the event production team)
- 3.7 We have noted so far the high attending numbers, the diverse audience and positive atmosphere and have received excellent feedback. The roundtable meetings were also positive with a desire to further improve and extend joint agency working in the planning stages to deal with the interface between the festival and the city on a Saturday night. There is a recommendation that future White Nights events will be planned not to coincide with a Halloween Saturday.
- 3.8 **Some alcohol misuse:** However, as well as all the positive aspects of White Nights, there was an aspect of concern which need to be addressed for future years. In particular, in the confined locations around New Road, Pavilion Gardens and spilling out to Jubilee Street and North Road there was large crowds and from 11 pm, some drunk, disorderly and anti-social behaviour which required police attention. There was a lot of drinking (from off licenses) with police reporting the profile of those of concern as mostly young people and some known 'trouble-makers'. This grouping of individuals and behaviours of concern, followed the end of programmed

events which included a film and dance event for older people and installations in Pavilion Gardens.

- 3.9 The Forum will wish to note that additional security was especially arranged for the night to assist in looking after public and artist safety. These arrangements included officers from an appropriate security firm and two dedicated police officers to patrol periphery non-event spaces such as Pavilion gardens and New Road. The Royal Pavilion also had additional security for the gardens.

Linda Beanlands
Commissioner Community Safety

COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

Agenda Item 32

Brighton & Hove City Council

Report to Community Safety Forum: 12th December 2011 Subject: Enhancing PCSO Powers

Contact Officer Name: *Sgt . Peter Castleton* **Tel:** 29-1115
E-mail: Peter.castleton@sussex.pnn.police.uk
Wards Affected: All

1. Introduction and purpose of report

- 1.1 As part of the Neighbourhood Policing Review it has been recommended that PCSOs be given five additional powers to enhance their role and improve their problem solving capabilities. This report outlines those new powers.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Community Safety Forum note and consider the information in this report and the likely implications.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Sussex Police Neighbourhood Policing Review conducted focus groups with PCSOs and it was evident that they were frustrated when they were unable to deal with some aspects of anti social behaviour and quality of life issues that are of concern to communities.
- 3.2 Research was also carried out with other forces many of whom already have additional powers. All forces found the additional powers beneficial.

4. The five new discretionary powers

- The power to issue penalty notices for disorder. The majority of these would be for disorderly conduct or drunk and disorderly behaviour.
- Power to detain, this applies to a person whom a PCSO has reason to believe has committed a relevant offence and fails to give a name or address or gives one the PCSO reasonably suspects to be false. They can be detained for up to 30 minutes.

- Power to disperse groups and remove persons under 16 to their place of residence. This matches the power given to police officers under the Anti Social Behaviour Act 2003.
- Power to search for alcohol and tobacco. This power can be used if persons fail to comply with two existing powers requiring under 18s to surrender alcohol or for persons to stop drinking in the designated public places order area .
- Power to issue fixed penalty notices for dog fouling. This will be increasing useful as PCSOs work more closely with council colleagues to deal with community concerns.

PCSOs are being trained to use these new powers in December 2011 and will be able to use them as soon as they have received the training.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 The introduction of these new powers represents an opportunity to show an evolving approach to dealing with community concerns together with colleagues in the police and council and is likely to improve community confidence. PCSOs have indicated a strong desire to add these powers to their capability in helping them deal with ASB and problem solving in communities with colleagues and partners.

REPORT OF THE SUSSEX POLICE AUTHORITY

The Sussex Police Authority met at Sackville House, Lewes, on 13 October 2011

Attendances:

Mr S Waight (Chairman), Mrs C Shaves MBE JP (Vice-Chairman), Mr L Barnard, Mr P Bratton, Prof G Bull, Dr L Bush, Mr G Daniel JP, Mr B Duncan, Mr P Evans, Mr F Faiz, Mr P Jones, Mrs S Knight, Mr A Price JP, Mr A Smith, Mr R Tidy and Dr R Walker.

The Police Authority considered a wide range of policing issues at the meeting including the following matters. The full set of reports to the Police Authority can be accessed on the Authority's website www.sussexpoliceauthority.gov.uk

Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011

- 1.1 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 received Royal Assent on 15 September 2011 and the date for the first elections across England and Wales for Police and Crime Commissioners (PCC) for each police force area has been confirmed as 15 November 2012.
- 1.2 The Authority faces a number of challenges over the coming months and the Chairman and the Chief Executive are determined that police accountability in Sussex will remain at the highest standard with the momentum of the Authority carrying into the early days of the PCC tenure of office. There is a commitment to achieving business as usual whilst ensuring a professional transition and handover. A Transition Programme has been established which will be overseen by a Governance Board, chaired by the Chief Executive and including the Treasurer, Solicitor and Chief Constable, reporting to the Authority's Corporate Governance Committee on a quarterly basis. The Police Authority is also working closely with local authorities and other agencies across Sussex regarding the role of PCCs particularly in respect of the Police and Crime Panel, community safety and the criminal justice system.

National Police Air Support Proposal

- 2.1 The National Police Air Support (NPAS) project commenced in 2009 following a review of the National Air Strategy by the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO). The aim in developing a national strategy is to harness air assets across the country to provide a coherent, effective and national service that is not limited by traditional police boundaries and makes the best use of these expensive assets. Locally the proposal would see a change from the existing two helicopter capability provided by South East Air Support Unit (SEASU) to coverage being provided by four aircraft which would be based at Bournemouth (Dorset), Dunsfold (Surrey), Benson (Thames Valley) and Southend (Essex).
- 2.2 The Police Authority expressed major concerns in relation to the level of coverage into the east of the county of East Sussex. The Authority has made it clear to ACPO that it cannot accept the current proposal which would deliver a service which did not meet the current standards delivered by the existing helicopter coverage. The new national proposals would base the helicopter provision at

Dunsfold aerodrome rather than the current arrangements at Shoreham Airport. The Authority expressed its reservations as to the level of air support and the costs associated with the air support that would be provided by one aircraft based at Dunsfold to cover the Hampshire, Surrey and Sussex with support for the west of Sussex from Bournemouth and in the east from Southend. Whilst continuing to support the principle of an NPAS service, the Authority stressed there should be no significant reduction in the current level of response times and aircraft coverage to Sussex. The final determination of NPAS will be brought back to the full Authority for consideration.

Budget Planning Update – Medium Term Financial Forecast and Review of Reserves 2011

- 3.1 The assumptions included as part of the budget agreed by the Authority in February 2011 indicated a funding shortfall in the region of £50m by 2015. The latest Medium Term Financial Forecast (MTFF) indicated a slightly improved position of £47.8m, but still with a greater weighting of savings required up to 2013 with some remaining uncertainty on key assumptions for 2013-15.
- 3.2 The Authority carefully examined the level of reserves which it would be appropriate for the Authority to hold. The Authority's Reserves Policy was last updated and approved in October 2010, and the importance of considering the Authority's reserves at the same time as the budget was acknowledged. The review of reserves included the scope for reducing the annual contributions to general reserves within the current reserves policy. A reduction in the annual contribution to general reserves of £0.675m would enable a lower precept increase of 1.75% for 2012-13 whilst maintaining the current level of funding shortfall and savings requirement.
- 3.3. The Resources Scrutiny Committee had drawn attention to the level of investment reserves (capital and revenue) of which up to £11m including the current budget surplus could be available over the MTFF period. Proposals will be presented to the Committee at its next meeting on 1 December 2011. The minimum prudent level of reserves is a matter of judgement rather than prescription and the Reserves Policy approved by the Authority includes a target level for the General Reserve of 4% of net budget requirement. In the light of the above the proposed changes to the reserves and the revised Reserves and Provisions Policy were approved.

Chief Constable's Update

- 4.1 Operation Maxim was the Sussex Police response to disturbances which took place around England. As part of the response Sussex Police provided an increased neighbourhood policing presence, prepared for instances of disorder and provided mutual aid to other forces. At the height of the disorder, Sussex provided a minimum of three Police Support Units to the Metropolitan Police Service per day. The Force has received a high number of messages of support and gratitude from members of the public and partners. The Authority congratulated the Chief Constable and his officers and staff for the success of Operation Maxim.
- 4.2 The South East Regional Organised Crime Unit (ROCU) has been in operation now for almost 12 months and has had many successes during this time. It has arrested around 75 individuals for investigations affecting all the regional forces.

Assets recovered from Organised Crime Groups (OCG) have an estimated value of around £2.5m which includes cash, property and other proceeds of crime.

- 4.3 Community Resolution has been rolled out across the Force area. The estimated figure for resolutions to take place in the first year was 1132 pro rata and so far the estimate has been exceeded by 682. The quality of Community Resolutions continues to be monitored, and the use of them reviewed during the year.
- 4.4 The satisfaction rates of victims with service delivery is split into two measures; with action taken by the police standing at 80.2%, and with being kept informed at 73.4%. Whilst not hitting the current target, both are showing continued improvement since March 2011 when the figures were 79.6% and 71.8% respectively. The satisfaction of victims of vehicle crime is also improving and now stands at 77.8%, within 5% of the target of 80% and up from 77% in March 2011. There is a focus on understanding the customer experience and translating this into actions for the Force to undertake so that satisfaction can be improved further.
- 4.5 The Police Authority has been informed that the national non-emergency police telephone number - 101 - has now been introduced by several forces across the country. Sussex went live with a soft launch on 27 June along with other phase one forces. Sussex had originally planned to go live in November 2011 but took the opportunity to begin testing early so that full quality of service could be delivered to the public on the number by November. From a customer perspective, an automatic menu of options will be made available when the call is answered. The first option is to be connected automatically to the local force as identified from the caller's location. If the caller's location is recognised as being close to a force boundary they will be given menu options to determine which force they wish to contact.
- The Sussex Police Contact Centre (PCC) receives around 60 calls daily via the 101 number although other forces, which launched with more publicity, are showing a much higher call volume. On average the PCC receives over 1,500 non-emergency calls a day.

STEVE WAIGHT
Chairman
October 2011

