





**Brighton & Hove  
City Council**

# Community Safety Forum

Title:	<b>Community Safety Forum</b>
Date:	<b>2 March 2015</b>
Time:	<b>4.00pm</b>
Venue	<b>Council Chamber, Hove Town Hall</b>
Members:	<b>Councillors:</b> J Kitcat (Chair), Simson (Opposition Spokesperson), Daniel (Opposition Spokesperson), Barnett, Carden, Deane, Mac Cafferty, Pidgeon, Robins and Wakefield, <b>Representatives from Communities of Interest</b>
Contact:	<b>Ross Keatley</b> Democratic Services Manager 01273 291064 ross.keatley@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	Surrey and Sussex Probation Trust
British Transport Police	Youth Offending Team
East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service	Partnership Community Safety Team

### Representatives of Local Action Teams

Bevendean	Moulsecoomb
Brighton Old Town	North Laine Community Association
Bristol Estate Community Association	Patcham
Brunswick & Adelaide	Portland Road & Clarendon
Brunswick & Regency Neighbourhood Action Group	Portslade
Central Hove	Preston Park & Fiveways
Clarendon	Queens Park
Clifton, Montpelier & Powis Community Alliance	Queens Park & Craven Vale
Coldean	Rottingdean
Coombe Road	Saunders Park Partnership
Craven Vale	Seafront
Craven Vale Community Association & LAT	St James's Street
Elm Grove	Stanmer
Goldsmid	Stanmer & Coldean
Hangleton & Knoll Community Action Forum	Tarner
Hanover & Elm Grove	West Hove Forum
Hollingbury	West Saltdean
Hollingdean	Whitehawk
Kemptown Action Group & Tarner	Whitehawk Crime Prevention Forum
London Road	Withdean
Marina	Woodingdean
Meadowview & Tenantry	

### Other Co-opted Members

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

## AGENDA

### 27 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:**
  - (a) Disclosable pecuniary interests not registered on the register of interests;
  - (b) Any other interests required to be registered under the local code;
  - (c) Any other general interest as a result of which a decision on the matter might reasonably be regarded as affecting you or a partner more than a majority of other people or businesses in the ward/s affected by the decision.

In each case, you need to declare

- (i) the item on the agenda the interest relates to;
- (ii) the nature of the interest; and
- (iii) whether it is a disclosable pecuniary interest or some other interest.

If unsure, Members should seek advice from the committee lawyer or administrator preferably before the meeting.

- (d) **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.*

### 28 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

1 - 6

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 October 2014 (copy attached).

Contact Officer: Ross Keatley

Tel: 29-1064

### 29 CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

## COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

- 30 'YOU SAID, WE DID'** **7 - 10**  
Update on matters arising from the previous meeting (copy attached).
- 31 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**  
To consider the following matters raised by members of the public:
- (a) **Petitions:** to receive any petitions presented by members of the public to the full council or at the meeting itself;
  - (b) **Written Questions:** to receive any questions submitted by the due date of 12 noon on the 23 January 2015;
  - (c) **Deputations:** to receive any deputations submitted by the due date of 12 noon on the 23 January 2015.
- 32 MEMBER INVOLVEMENT**  
To consider the following matters raised by councillors:
- (a) **Petitions:** to receive any petitions submitted to the full Council or at the meeting itself;
  - (b) **Written Questions:** to consider any written questions;
  - (c) **Letters:** to consider any letters;
  - (d) **Notices of Motion:** to consider any Notices of Motion referred from Council or submitted directly to the Committee.
- 33 REPORT FROM THE POLICE & CRIME PANEL** **11 - 20**  
Minutes from the meeting of the Sussex Police & Crime Panel held on 10 October 2014 (copy attached).
- 34 REPORT FROM EAST SUSSEX FIRE AUTHORITY** **21 - 24**  
Minutes from the meeting of the East Sussex Fire Authority held on 11 December 2014 (copy attached).
- 35 PERFORMANCE REPORT & CRIME TRENDS: APRIL TO DECEMBER 2014** **25 - 42**  
Report of the Head of Community Safety (copy attached).
- 36 PROTECTING CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE**
- A CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION** **43 - 46**  
Written report from the Head of Safeguarding (copy attached).
  - B THE WORK OF SAFETY NET**  
Verbal presentation from Terri Fletcher.

## COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM

### 37 'ONE VOICE' COMMUNITIES COMING TOGETHER TO HELP KEEP PEOPLE SAFE

Verbal presentation by Fiyaz Mughal: Director of Faith Matters.

### 38 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The dates for the 2015/16 municipal year:

- 8 June 2015
- 5 October 2015
- 29 February 2016

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For further details and general enquiries about this meeting contact Ross Keatley, (01273 291064, email [ross.keatley@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:ross.keatley@brighton-hove.gov.uk)) or email [democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:democratic.services@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

Date of Publication - Friday, 20 February 2015



**BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL****COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM****4.00pm 6 OCTOBER 2014****COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL****MINUTES**

**Present:** Councillor J Kitcat (Chair); Simson (Opposition Spokesperson), Daniel (Opposition Spokesperson), Barnett, Carden, Mac Cafferty, Robins and Wakefield

**Sussex Police:** Chief Superintendent: Nev Kemps and Inspector Gareth Davies

**Statutory Services:** Mark Matthews (ESFRS)

**Communities of Interest:** Bill Gandy (Bevendean LAT); Sylvie Howell (Bevendean LAT); Ray Metcalfe (Moulsecoomb LAT); Nichols De Conde (Moulsecoomb LAT); John McPhillips (Tarnar LAT); Mark Green (Brighton & Hove Mediation Service) and Charlie Gibbs (Victim Support).

**Officers:** Linda Beanlands (Head of Community Safety); Peter Castleton (Community Safety Manager); Simon Court (Senior Lawyer); and Ross Keatley (Acting Democratic Services Manager).

**PART ONE****15 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS****15a Declaration of Substitutes**

15.1 There were none.

**15b Declarations of Interest**

15.2 Councillor Carden declared an interest as he was a Member of the Fire Authority.

**15c Exclusion of the Press and Public**

15.3 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).

15.4 **RESOLVED** - That the press and public are not excluded from the meeting.

## 16 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

16.1 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the Community Safety Forum meeting held on 9 June 2014 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

## 17 CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

17.1 The Chair gave the following communications:

“A particular welcome to the new Chair (Mahir Choudhary) and Vice Chair (Hanan Mansi) of the Racial Harassment Forum, to Dr. Yagoub who has so successfully chaired the Forum for some years – and to all those who have joined us for the first time to talk to our agenda item and discussion about how we keeping our communities safe.

Linked to that particular issue, we have given you some information about an event which is taking place this coming Sunday, hosted by Jo Berry, the Director of Building Bridges for Peace and supported by the Old Market organisation. While the event is to commemorate the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Brighton Bombing, its wider aim is to help us all understand how we can prevent violence and find alternative ways of dealing with conflict. It is an important event and if you would like to attend – please let Linda know and she will help make the necessary arrangements.

Many of you will have already received your invitation to this event which is taking place on 23<sup>rd</sup> October. Copies of that invitation are also laid round – and there is still time to book onto the event. Community Resilience is about people helping us to keep you, your families and communities safe during bad weather and we would very much like to work in partnership with you and local action teams to prepare for those eventualities. Please do come if you can spare the time.

Pavilion Gardens is of course part of our most important heritage in the city and a major tourist attraction which is visited by millions of people each year. As a result, it is a challenge to deal with the effects of so many people using the gardens – and from time to time, its public space is the site of anti-social behaviour and crime. We now have a project group of officers who are leading on implementing a number of actions which we have no doubt will make the gardens feel and be safer. For example, our community safety Projects Team has a ‘starting the day’ initiative, which is encouraging some of the street drinkers to work alongside officers to litter pick and clean up the gardens. In return – breakfast is provided and the opportunity to engage with outreach workers and access services.

Helped by our Project Team, the George Street Traders Association is working with BrightonThinkBig’ (arts organisation) and community members to transform brick walls of a dingy alleyway that runs between George Street and St. Andrews Church Yard. The mural will depict historic Hove. The alleyway used to be blocked with bins and attract street drinkers and generally be not a nice place. Apart from being a great community



event, the aim is to increase feelings of safety in this well used alleyway and to provide a piece of art for everyone to enjoy.

Our Projects Team has been asked to host a meeting in Brighton of the national 'Design Out Crime Association' in November. Delegates are expected to come from a number of police forces and community safety teams and from the Jill Dando institute. This may present an opportunity to contribute to coming up with some ideas about how we can deal with some of the issues that are experienced in the grounds of the Royal Pavilion. We will make sure that we get details of the event out to everyone."

## **18 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

18.1 There were no petitions, written questions or deputations.

## **19 MEMBER INVOLVEMENT**

19.1 There were no petitions, written questions, letters or notices of motion from Members.

## **20 'YOU SAID, WE DID'**

20.1 The information provided under Chairs Communications was noted.

## **21 REPORT FROM THE POLICE & CRIME PANEL**

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

## **22 REPORT FROM EAST SUSSEX FIRE AUTHORITY**

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

## **23 CRIME TRENDS AND PERFORMANCE IN BRIGHTON & HOVE: POSITION UP TO AUGUST 2014**

23.1 The Forum considered a report of the Head of Community Safety describing recent activities and progress relating to priority areas in Brighton & Hove Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2011-14. Graphs showing monthly crime data from April 2010 to April 2014 were provided which set recent data in the context of both longer term trends and seasonal crime cycles.

23.2 In response to questions raised by Councillor Simson the Head of Community Safety explained that the under recording of sexual crimes and domestic abuse was not used as a fall-back position to justify increases in trends; however, Officers were certain the level of reporting was still not a true reflection of the extent of the incidents within the city. The Chief Superintendent, Nev Kemps, added that there was nothing to suggest there was a greater level of sexual crimes or domestic abuse.

23.3 In response to further questions the Head of Community Safety explained that benchmarking could only take place where other authorities undertook the same level of recording and considered the same crime types. It was confirmed that in relation to domestic violence there was no national comparative data.

- 23.4 In response to questions raised by Councillor Daniel about violence against women and girls, exploitation and modern slavery it was explained that the partnership was already set up, and the strategic arrangements were in place. Both the Chief Executive at the Council and the Chief Superintendent maintained the strategic overview of this. There were also Sussex-wide arrangements in place, and there was ongoing work to raise awareness within the workforce. There were Police operation and safeguarding arrangements in place and Children's Services led in this and reported through the Safeguarding Board. The Chair also added that a review would be coming to a future meeting of the Forum. The Chief Superintendent also added that the force had looked at the work of the Thames Valley Police; the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub had been set up to create much more joined up working.
- 23.5 Councillor Daniel also asked about the increase in hate crimes and the Chief Superintendent explained that there had been an increase in anti-Semitic and Islamophobic incidents such as graffiti on mosques and synagogues. There had been no violent crimes, but the graffiti had been fully investigated and taken very seriously. Most of these incidents had taken place in Hove.
- 23.6 In response to a question from Mr Conde from the Moulsecoomb LAT it was confirmed that some of the youth offenders in the city had been referred to the YMCA programmes, and there were regular conversation about continuing this work.
- 23.7 In response to Councillor Wakefield the Head of Community Safety explained that senior representatives from schools sat on the Safeguarding Board, and training programmes had been delivered in relation to child exploitation. The focus was shifting to creating an overall action plan, and there was close work with Children's Services to raise awareness and encourage young people to come forward.
- 23.8 In response to concerns about the length of time calls were taking to be answered on the 111 line the Chief Superintendent agreed to look into the matter further.
- 28.9 In response to queries about the sections of the community that the reduction in crime was coming from it was explained that the reduction was in *areas* rather than sections of the community. It was added that most of the seasonal offences were concentrated around the city centre and linked to the night time economy.
- 28.10 **RESOLVED** – That the Committee note the report.

## **24 ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR, CRIME AND POLICING ACT 2014**

- 24.1 The Forum considered a report of the Head of Community Safety in relation to the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014. The report sought to outline the new powers in the act and the local arrangements to ensure effective implementation.
- 24.2 In response to Councillor Wakefield it was explained that closure powers did not include shops that sold alcohol to underage children, but there were existing powers within licensing laws that could be used in these instances.

- 24.3 In response to Councillor Simson it was explained that the community remedy was recorded through the Police intelligence system, and they would be able to check this information if there were further issues reported.
- 24.4 Councillor Daniel asked how the community remedy would be joined up between agencies and it was explained that where individuals claimed they had reported this three times it would be followed up and checked – if it then hit the level for trigger it would be tasked to an Officer to make recommendations. The purpose was not to create an automatic trigger, but to ensure there was a process to give a case review. In response to a further question it was clarified vexatious or malicious use of this was not envisaged and had not been an issue during the pilot.
- 24.5 Councillor Robins had specific queries in relation to dispersal powers and it was explained that there would need to be consultation before the powers were used, but there was no prerequisite to use them. It was currently expected that the authority to use the powers would be delegated to the rank of Superintendent who was always on duty or on call. It was clarified that the dispersal power came under the Police elements of the legislation and the public aspects fell within the remit of the local authority. There would be two monthly meetings with partners to discuss how the new powers could be used, and the aim was to create consistency within the city.
- 24.6 Councillor Mac Cafferty noted that he welcomed these new powers, but felt that it was important residents' expectation of what they could achieve be properly managed.
- 24.7 **RESOLVED** – that the Forum acknowledge the content of the report and the local arrangements.

## 25 COMMUNITY SAFETY & COHESION

### Racial Harassment Forum

- 25.1 The Forum received a presentation from the Chair and Vice Chair of the Racial Harassment Forum (RHF). The presentation covered the history of the Forum; the work it undertook; its aims and objectives; areas for improvement and how other bodies and statutory authorities could get involved.
- 25.2 The Chair asked if there were agencies that could be encouraged to engage with the Forum, and it was explained that the Forum received anecdotal evidence from front line workers such as taxi drivers; takeaway workers; school and NHS staff, but this did not necessarily reflect the reported incidents. The Chair agreed that the issues around colleagues in schools and the NHS could be followed up by the Council.
- 25.3 Mr Francis Tonks welcomed the work of the RHF and suggested that an event similar to Notting Hill Carnival could be launched to celebrate racial diversity within the city.
- 25.4 Councillor Barnett stated that the ethnic minority groups in Hangleton did excellent work, and in response to her queries it was explained that the RHF had many community organisations as members and hoped to hold a community event to deliver specific training. The Vice-Chair added that she was committed to causes in relation to domestic violence, and part of this training would be to raise awareness.

- 25.5 Councillor Daniel congratulated the work of RHF, and hoped to invite them to community events in her Ward. She also noted that the work all community champions in the city was 'outstanding'.
- 25.6 In response to query the Head of Community Safety explained that the RHT were volunteers, and the community champions were working closely with the LATs to allow them to be more representative of their neighbourhoods.
- 25.7 Councillor Simson stated that it was important that more work be undertaken to increase involvement from younger people; particularly from under-represented groups such as the Bangladeshi Community.

**Brighton & Hove Refugee and Migrant Forum**

- 25.8 The Forum received a presentation from the Brighton & Hove Refugee and Migrant Forum. The presentation outlined the background to the forum and some examples of the work undertaken.
- 25.9 **RESOLVED** – That the presentations be noted.

**26 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

- 26.1 The Forum noted the future meeting dates:
- 2 March 2015.

The meeting concluded at 5.55pm

Signed

Chairman

Dated this

day of

**Report to Community Safety Forum – 2 March 2015****Subject: You Said We Did: Interpreting Data on Domestic & Sexual Violence**

**Contact Officer:** Name: *Linda Beanlands* Tel: **29-1115**  
E-mail: [Linda.beanlands@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:Linda.beanlands@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk)  
**Wards Affected:** All

**1.0 Introduction**

1.1 At the last meeting of the Community Safety Forum, you asked for more explanation of what lies behind the data that we report on domestic and sexual violence. The following information helps our understanding.

**2.0 Interpreting data on sexual offences and on domestic violence (DV) offences**

2.1 There are two main aims to the Partnership's work around sexual and domestic violence offences. The primary aim is to reduce the amount of domestic and sexual violence that takes place – indeed, to stop it happening altogether. However, we also seek to increase reporting of incidents so that there are opportunities for services to engage and protect the individuals affected and where possible, to bring perpetrators to justice through criminal justice processes. Much work continues to take place to actively encourage victims to report.

2.2 Interpretation of this data is difficult. With overall police recorded numbers being influenced by reporting rates as well as underlying incidents taking place, we are not in a position to be able to say that the number of crimes and incidents going up (or going down) is 'good' or 'bad'. However, the data provided do indicate the scale of the problem that services need to address, which especially in the case of domestic violence and abuse is significant.

2.3 Benchmark data is not available for domestic violence crimes and incidents. While data for comparing Brighton & Hove with comparator (benchmarked) partnerships are technically available for sexual offences, because of the difficulties and differences in interpretation, it is not useful to include that information in our reports.

2.4 In our reports, we tell you about police recorded crimes as well as police recorded incidents. For crimes, we follow the Home Office definition, counting and reporting on those recorded for aged 16years and over. For incidents, we are able to count and report on victims of any age since they are drawn from a different database (that database does not separate according to age).

## 3.0 Differences in reporting by different sections of the population.

- 3.1 The question on trends in who is reporting crimes is not straightforward to answer. The police only collect information on who is the aggrieved (not necessarily the person reporting).
- 3.2 The question raised at the Forum focused particularly on the reporting rate of older people and whether this had changed. An example is the breakdown set out below, of the age of the aggrieved (the person affected by the crime) from April to September 2014:

<18s	583
18-25	1640
26-49	4049
+50	1636
Aggrieved age is null	3347
No aggrieved	131

- 3.3 However, you wouldn't expect victimisation to be spread evenly across the age groups (young people are most often the victim in some of the more numerous crime types, e.g. theft and violence), so it's hard to say whether reporting (as opposed to victimisation) is more or less likely in any particular age group.
- 3.4 The table below provides annual data for crimes where the victim is aged 50+, aged 60+ and for total crimes. Over this 6 year period from 2008/9 to 2013/14 all datasets have shown a decline, with the data for over 50s showing less of a decline than that for total crimes and the data for victims over 60 years old showing a slightly greater decline than the total crime figure. More analysis would be required to understand this difference in more detail. However a possible factor which may be disproportionately encouraging younger rather than older people to report could be the fact that there are now more ways to report crimes using new information technology.

	No. of crimes with victims aged 50 and above	No. of crimes with victims aged 60 and above	Total police recorded crimes
2008/09	3049	1493	25099
2009/10	2945	1431	24382
2010/11	2985	1439	23998
2011/12	2848	1312	23608
2012/13	2761	1295	23541
2013/14	2808	1239	21616
% change 2008/09 to 2013/14	-7.9%	-17.0%	-13.9%

## Safe in the City Partnership

The 2013 Strategic Assessment of Crime and Community Safety undertook a fairly wide-scale look at which groups within the local population were more affected by crime or community safety issues and this information was taken into consideration during the development of the Community Safety Strategy for 2014-17. The Strategic Assessment can be found [here](#).

People should always be encouraged to report crimes to the police (or to another service). All information received will contribute to acquiring a fuller picture of crime and disorder and will enable responses and preventative measures to be targeted in the most effective way.





**Sussex Police and Crime Panel**

10 October 2014 – at a meeting of the Panel held at 10.00 a.m. at County Hall, Lewes.

Present:

Paul Wotherspoon	Arun DC
David Simmons	Adur DC
Liz Wakefield	Brighton and Hove CC
Geoffrey Theobald*	Brighton and Hove CC
Chris Oxlade	Crawley BC
Bill Bentley	East Sussex CC
Rosalyn St Pierret†	East Sussex CC
John Ungar	Eastbourne BC
Brian Donnelly (1)	Lewes DC
Pru Moore (2)	Mid Sussex DC
Robin Patten	Rother DC
Brad Watson	West Sussex CC
Graham Jones	West Sussex CC
Val Turner	Worthing BC
Graham Hill	Independent
Sandra Prail	Independent

- (1) Substitute for Sue Rogers  
 (2) Substitute for Christopher Snowling

\*Geoffrey Theobald took his seat on the Panel at 10.42 a.m. please see minute 69 below.

†Rosalyn St Pierre took her seat on the Panel at 12.30 p.m. please see minute 90 below.

Apologies for absence were received from Eileen Lintill (Chichester DC), Andrew Cartwright (Hastings BC), Sue Rogers (Horsham DC), Christopher Snowling (Mid Sussex DC), Claire Dowling (Wealden DC) and Sandra Prail (Independent).

In attendance: Katy Bourne, Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner; Mark Streater, Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer of the Office of the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner (OSPCC); Carl Rushbridge, Chief Finance Officer of the OSPCC; John Willett, Manager for Restorative Justice (OSPCC); Rachel Kemish (External Witness with experience of RJ) and Ninesh Edwards and Matthew Evans (Host Authority - West Sussex CC).

**Declarations of Interest**

64. In accordance with the code of conduct members of the Panel declared the personal interests contained in the table below.

<b>Panel Member</b>	<b>Personal Interest</b>
Brad Watson	Member of Horsham Safety Partnership
Robin Patten	Chairman of Rother Safety Partnership

Paul Wotherspoon	Member of Safer Arun Partnership
Dave Simmons	Chairman of Safer Communities Partnership, Adur and Worthing Chairman of Safer West Sussex Partnership
Liz Wakefield	Member of Brighton and Hove Community Safety Forum
Bill Bentley	Chairman of East Sussex Safer Community Board
Chris Oxlade	Member of Crawley Community Safety Partnership
Brian Donnelly	Member of Horsham Safety Partnership
Andy Smith	Chairman of Lewes Community Safety Partnership
Brad Watson	Member of Horsham Safety Partnership
Robin Patten	Chairman of Rother Safety Partnership
Graham Hill	Member of Horsham Safety Partnership Senior Service Delivery Manager for Victim Support charity Member of Crawley Community Safety Partnership Board
Val Turner	Member of Adur and Worthing CSP

**Minutes**

65. The Panel noted that Paul Wotherspoon was inaccurately listed on the schedule of declarations of interest at the previous meeting; Mr Wotherspoon had provided his apologies for the meeting and needed to be removed from the schedule.

66. Resolved – That subject to the correction above the minutes of the meeting of the Sussex Police and Crime Panel held on 27 June 2014 be confirmed as a correct record.

**Part II Matters**

67. The Panel was asked to consider if the minutes on the Part II agenda should be brought into Part I. The Panel agreed that the grounds for exemption of the minutes on the Part II agenda still applied and it was agreed that they would be considered in the closed session.

**Restorative Justice**

68. The Panel received a report from the Office of the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner (version attached the signed version of the minutes). John Willett, Manager for Restorative Justice (RJ), introduced the report and explained that RJ was a voluntary process that was undertaken at the request of the victim of a crime and involved the victim engaging directly with the perpetrator. The success of RJ depended upon effective partnership working and good governance arrangements. It was reported that a RJ advocate group was being established and members of the Panel would be welcome volunteers.

69. Geoffrey Theobald took his seat on the Panel at 10.42 a.m.

70. Mr Willett introduced Rachel Kemish who had participated in the RJ process and had met the perpetrator of a crime against her. Mrs Kemish spoke of her experiences and the benefits of the process for her family and the offender.

71. The Panel raised the points below in the discussion that followed:

- The impact and effectiveness of RJ upon reducing the rates of reoffending and if evidence was available to substantiate claims of lowered rates. *It was confirmed that there was no guarantee that a perpetrator would not re-offend after taking part in RJ. On-going contact with the perpetrator and empathy between the victim and the offender would decrease the likelihood of reoffending. RJ was primarily a process for the benefit of the victim; if there was a positive impact upon reoffending rates this represented a significant additional benefit. Evidence was available through academic study commissioned by the Ministry of Justice, available on the RJ Council website.*
- If the perpetrator could refuse to participate and if there were any crimes which were considered unsuitable for the process. *The offender could refuse to participate in the process and would often be apprehensive about meeting the victims of their crimes. A facilitator was involved to assist the process and full risk assessments were conducted for each request for RJ. RJ would not be undertaken where any doubt had been raised through risk assessment; badly conducted RJ could result in greater harm to the victim. Requests for RJ were considered on a case-by-case basis.*
- The Panel queried how RJ would coordinate with other local bodies such as the Neighbourhood Resolutions Conferences in the Arun District Council Area. *Work was being coordinated with Arun DC as part of developing partnership working.*
- How RJ was conducted for offences such as cyber crime where it was probable that thousands of people were victims. *This was a similar issue to addressing requests for RJ involving perpetrators who had committed multiple burglaries resulting in a large number of victims. Developments in the application of RJ were required to meet such pressures.*
- The budget of £289,000 was queried, if it was felt to be sufficient and what would occur at the end of the three-year agreement. *The dedicated budget for RJ was welcomed and showed recognition for the importance of the area. The budget was being used to develop structures with partners and at the end of the current process the benefits of RJ would be presented to show that the project had a significant impact. The amount of £289,000 was funding for two years, a budget had yet to be agreed for the third year and the Criminal Justice Board was attempting to ensure that the project would be sustainable across the three-year period.*
- Age limits for involvement in RJ. *The Youth Justice Board was conversant with RJ, no age limit was imposed on the application of RJ and each request was considered on its merits. It was noted that RJ was used in many circumstances including in schools to address problems with bullying. The importance of good facilitation was emphasised to ensure RJ was effective and beneficial.*

72. The Panel thanked Mrs Kemish for the moving evidence she had presented to the meeting of her participation in the RJ process.

73. Resolved - That the Panel supports the report and the proposals for RJ.

### **Medium term Financial Forecast and Budget Timetable 2015/16**

74. The Panel received a report from the Office of the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner which set out the medium term financial forecast and budget timetable for 2015/16. The report also included details of potential precept options (copy appended to the signed version of the minutes). The report was introduced by Carl Rushbridge who advised the Panel that the draft budget was based upon assumptions including a period of continued austerity and the freezing of grant funding. Budget planning had taken account of the increase of National Insurance contributions from 2016/17 with £4 million set aside to meet this liability. Savings totalling £55 million would be required over the next 4 years, it was anticipated that the financial settlement would reduce in forthcoming years but a balanced budget was forecast for 2015/16. The precept options contained in the report had been based on the assumption that a similar threshold for a referendum would be applied for the 2015/16 financial year.

75. The Panel raised the issues below in the discussion that followed:

- The reduction in the extent of services for sexual investigations as a consequence of the funding short fall in 2014/15 and increases in reporting rates of serious sexual offences. *Increases in reporting rates had been anticipated as projects to increase reporting rates progressed. The increase in the rate enabled an accurate understanding of risk and the extent of the issue in Sussex. A 24/7 service was still a priority but without the additional funding the realisation of this service would not be achieved within the original timeframe;*
- The cost of policing public demonstrations. *A contingency fund had been agreed with the Chief Constable. A proportion of the cost involved in the policing of the Balcombe protests had been recovered from the Home Office and an agreement had been reached with the Secretary of State to refund future costs to the force of policing fracking demonstrations;*
- The Panel highlighted that the precept in Sussex was the fourth lowest in England and Wales and it was in this context that it endorsed the Commissioner's proposal of an increase of 3.6% in 2014/15 to meet the investment needs identified. The referendum threshold had limited the precept increase to 1.98% but the Panel was not obliged to agree the remainder of the agreed 2014/15 increase within any proposed precept for 2015/16. The proposed precept and priorities for 2015/16 would be considered independently of the decision relating to the 2014/15 precept.
- Some members of the Panel outlined provisional support for a proposed precept increase of 1.98%.
- The Panel queried spending on public relations and human resources and identified these as areas where savings could be achieved through

partnership working. Further detail of the spending on these departments was requested. *It was reported that the Chief Constable undertook a Star Chamber assessment of each department. Through joint working with Surrey significant savings had been realised including some within human resources. Full collaboration would not realise the full level of required savings. The greater level of detail requested was not strictly within the responsibilities of the Panel but the information could be provided.*

- The Panel sought clarification of where the six new sergeants, appointed under Safeguarding functions, would be deployed. *This information would be provided after the meeting.*
- The Panel referred to the areas of financial risk in the report which provided an assessment from the Chief Constable that priorities within the Police and Crime Plan could be funded within existing resources. It was felt that with such a clear statement the Commissioner would have to provide compelling justification for a proposed precept increase of 1.98% in 2015/16. *The Commissioner explained that without increased investment the priorities identified would take longer to achieve.*
- The Panel noted the long term impact of the freeze grant which prevented the expansion of the tax base and the prudence of a precept increase to strengthen the financial footing of the force in the future.

76. Resolved – That the Panel notes the report.

### **Police and Crime Plan Monitoring report**

77. The Panel received a report from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner which provided an update on performance against the objectives and measures in the Police and Crime Plan for the half-year period April – September 2014 (copy appended to the signed version of the minutes). The report was introduced by Mark Streater who informed the Panel of the intention to refresh the Plan in 2015/16 and involve the working group of the Panel to make recommendations on the draft refreshed Plan.

78. Chris Oxlade left the meeting at 11.50 a.m. and Liz Wakefield left the meeting at 11.55 a.m.

79. The Panel raised the issues below in the discussion that followed:

- The measure relating to the objective to reduce the risk of crime per 1,000 head of population only provided data up to August 2014, statistics up to the end of September, consistent with data reported elsewhere in the report, were requested. *The period of the measure for the objective was rolling and the period selected was for comparison purposes. Updated figures to include September 2014 would be provided.*
- The Safer in Sussex Community Fund had been a success and the Commissioner was asked what measures she proposed to evaluate the value of those projects supported through the fund. *The Commissioner confirmed*

*that a framework was being developed that was not excessively prescriptive and would hence avoid the risk of alienating organisations.*

- The joint Sussex and Surrey cyber crime unit and the recruitment of specialist IT operatives. *The cyber crime unit would be fully operational in November and be based at Haywards Heath. The unit was linked in to the national cyber crime strategy and would address such crimes as boiler room fraud. Serious national and regional cyber crime attacks would be addressed by the National Crime Agency and South East Regional Organised Crime Unit. Specialist IT operatives had been recruited to work in the unit and had been appointed Special Constables.*

80. Mr Oxlade returned to the meeting at 11.55 a.m. and Mrs Wakefield returned at 12.00 noon.

81. Resolved – that the Panel notes the report.

### **Victims' services Commissioning – Verbal Update**

82. The Panel received a verbal update from Mr Streater regarding progress with the commissioning of victims' services. The commissioning exercise had sought to appoint a provider of victims' services in Sussex in partnership with Thames Valley and Surrey areas. The tendering process had now ceased and after evaluation it was anticipated that the successful bidder would be announced in late October. The new arrangements for victims' services would commence on 1 April 2015 and specialist victims' services, beyond the remit of the appointed provider, would be supported through additional funds passported to the Commissioner. Funding for direct investment in specialist services included domestic violence and serious sexual offences. Victims' services outside of the most serious categories would be able to compete for funding under the new arrangements from the middle of October.

83. Paul Wotherspoon left the meeting at 12.10 p.m.

### **Quarterly Report of Complaints**

84. The Panel received a report providing an update on the number of complaints received by the Panel in the last quarter and progress made with those live complaints (copy appended to the signed copy of the minutes). No new complaints received by the Panel over the last quarter pertained to issues within the remit of the Panel.

85. Mr Wotherspoon returned to the meeting at 12.15 p.m.

86. Resolved – that the Panel notes the quarterly report of complaints.

### **Written Questions**

87. The Panel received the schedule of written questions submitted prior to the meeting and the responses from the Commissioner's Office (copy appended to the

signed version of the minutes). One question had been considered to be operational in nature and had been passed to Sussex Police for a response.

88. The Panel discussed the response to the written question regarding the illegal parking of unregistered vehicles. The powers of the Police and local authorities in respect of this issue were complicated and misunderstood. More information was requested to outline action the police could take against the owners of the vehicles and if there were powers to remove such vehicles. *An update would be requested from Sussex Police by the Commissioner.*

89. Mr Oxlade and Andy Smith left the meeting at 12.30 p.m.

90. Rosalyn St Pierre joined the meeting at 12.30 p.m.

91. There was a brief recess at 12.30 p.m. until 1.00 p.m.

### **Sussex Youth Commission Conference**

92. The Panel watched a video produced by the Commissioner's Office highlighting the role and work of the Youth Commission. Following the video the Commissioner explained that the Youth Commission had been established in 2013 to engage with young people in Sussex. The Commission consisted of representatives between the ages of 14 and 25 and it was intended that the membership was as wide ranging as possible, including hard-to-reach groups. The Youth Commission had recently undertaken a conference that had been well attended and the outcomes of the event were available on the Commissioner's website.

93. Some members of the Panel had attended the conference and raised the following comments along with more general comments from members on the work of the Youth Commission:

- The Youth Commission was supported as it offered a forum for young people who often felt disenfranchised by structures of authority;
- The strength of feeling evinced by attendees at the conference demonstrated that the Youth Commission was a worthwhile exercise that had a valuable and significant role to play in youth engagement in Sussex;
- The importance of including children looked after on the Commission's membership was raised. *The Commissioner confirmed that the membership of the Commission did include children in care;*
- The Commissioner was encouraged to attempt to safeguard the existence of the Commission beyond her term of office; and
- The Panel recognised the benefit of the Commission as a method to communicate effectively with a wide range of young people in West Sussex through peer feedback.

94. Resolved – That the Panel supports the work undertaken with the Youth Commission.

### **Commissioner's Question Time**

95. A member of the Panel referred to reports he had heard concerning proposed reductions to Community Policing Teams. Assurance was sought that Police Constables would not be removed from Community Policing Teams. *The deployment of police officers and the structure of Sussex Police were within the responsibilities of the Chief Constable. The value of local policing was acknowledged.*

96. The Commissioner was asked how she would assess the success of the cyber crime initiative. *The initiative was currently evaluating key areas to focus on and risk assessments were being conducted to identify priority areas from which discernible measures would be drawn.*

97. The Commissioner was asked if the Rapid Response Teams represented an extra level of bureaucracy. *Visible policing was a priority and mobile technology ensured that police officers spent longer in the community. Innovation funding had been secured for the priority in conjunction with Dorset Police.*

98. The Commissioner was asked about the impact of proposed bus service cuts upon crime in Sussex. *The Commissioner was aware of the issue and any potential consequences would be assessed by the involvement of her Office on local CSPs.*

### **Visits to other PCP meetings**

99. The Panel received an update on a visit to a meeting of the Thames Valley PCP. The Thames Valley Panel was moving toward a member-led approach to setting themes for meetings to scrutinise areas of interest. External witnesses were invited to contribute to discussions and it was felt that the topic of young people would offer a good opportunity for the Panel to have a themed meeting on an issue of interest. It was confirmed that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman would review the information gathered from visits to other areas and identify any areas of good practice that should be adopted in Sussex.

### **Contact Centre Tour**

100. The Panel provided feedback from the tours to the contact centre. The Panel was impressed with the operation of the contact centre but was mindful that Sussex Police faced a significant challenge to maintain performance levels and introduce new methods of communication for the public to contact the Police.

101. Geoffrey Theobald left the meeting at 1.50 p.m.

### **Exclusion of Press and Public**

102. Resolved – That under Section 100(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I, of Schedule 12A, of the Act by virtue of the paragraph specified under the item and that, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption of that information outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.



**Minutes (Part II) of the meeting held on 27 June 2014**

Exempt: paragraph 1, Information about individuals

103. Resolved – that the minutes (Part II) of the Sussex Police and Crime Panel held on 23 January confirmed as a correct record.

The meeting ended at 1.52 p.m.

Chairman



**Report of a meeting of the East Sussex Fire Authority held at Fire & Rescue Service Headquarters at 10.30 hours on Thursday 11 December 2014.**

**Present:** Councillors Barnes, Buchanan, Deane, Earl, Galley, Howson (Chairman), Lambert, Peltzer Dunn, Powell, Pragnell, Scott, Sheppard, Taylor, Theobald and Wincott.

**1. NEWHAVEN FIRE**

- 1.1 Members noted an oral report from the Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive (CFO&CE) who gave details about the recent fire at Newhaven. The incident had lasted for 7 days, had been fought 24/7, involved other agencies, and included support from the high volume pump from Surrey FRS. Valuable support had been given by the British Red Cross for which the Fire Authority recorded its gratitude.
- 1.2 The CFO&CE anticipated that the cost of attending the incident would impact on the budget for Retained Duty firefighters. Some equipment had been damaged at the incident. The FRS was unable to recover costs as attendance had been a statutory duty, not a special service (which could be charged). Councillor Buchanan suggested that in view of the continued reduction in government grant funding, the Government should be lobbied to allow FRSs to recover costs from insurers.
- 1.3 The CFO&CE assured Members that whilst crews and equipment had been committed to the incident at Newhaven, ESFRS would still have been able to provide responses to other incidents, and that mutual aid assistance from other FRSs would have been available to call upon.

**2. THE AUTUMN STATEMENT**

- 2.1 The Fire Authority considered an overview of the Chancellor's autumn statement issued on 3<sup>rd</sup> December. No new announcements on council tax had been made. The local government finance settlement was expected on 17 December 2014, when the referendum threshold was expected to be announced.
- 2.2 The government would continue to reform and take tough decisions on public sector pay while it continued to reduce the current budget deficit until 2017-18; it would be assessing the result of public sector pay bill control pilots in the next Spending Review. It would take further action to ensure the full costs of providing pensions for public service workers are met by employers. The autumn statement did not include an announcement about the employer's contribution rate for the Firefighters' Pension Scheme 2015.
- 2.3 The CFO&CE informed Members that the DCLG's budget had not been ring-fenced and, therefore, fire and rescue services would almost certainly have to contribute to the savings total with further reductions in grant, and a greater level of savings required. The Fire Authority's current Medium Term Finance Plan assumed that Council Tax will be increased by 1.94% each year over the next five years.

- 2.4 The Fire Authority had recently submitted bids for capital funding to DCLG (to fund a joint facility at Newhaven fire station, works at Roedean and The Ridge Fire Stations to introduce Day Crewed Plus). None of these bids had been successful. The successful bids had included not only shared buildings/facilities, but also joint teams of staff delivering public services.
- 2.5 The Policy & Resources Panel (13 November 2014) had agreed to proceed with the development of a business case to relocate ESFRS headquarters to the Sussex Police HQ site in Lewes and the development of a disposal strategy for the current ESFRS HQ site. Sussex Police supported working together, and the integration of some services would achieve revenue savings. A full business case was being prepared.
- 2.6 Members noted the oral report.

### **3. THE FIRE AUTHORITY'S CONSTITUTION**

- 3.1 The current Members' Handbook brought together the Authority's constitutional documents including, amongst other things, standing orders, contract standing orders, financial regulations, the Members Code of Conduct and the Scheme of Delegations. It was proposed that the Members' Handbook be rebranded to 'The Constitution'. This would include constitutional documents, information and guidance for Members.
- 3.2 The Scrutiny & Audit Panel had considered the latest CIPFA guidance on the function and operation of audit committees and had recommended approval of revised terms of reference for the Scrutiny & Audit Panel. The Scheme of Delegated Functions had been streamlined and was presented for consideration and approval.
- 3.3 The Public Service Pensions Act 2013 required the Authority to establish a local Pension Board in relation to the Firefighters Pension Scheme, and further changes to the Constitution would be required to establish this by 1 April 2015.
- 3.4 Members discussed the substitution arrangements for those occasions when Members could not attend Fire Authority meetings. The Deputy Monitoring Officer advised Members that the Fire Authority could not dispense with the substitution arrangement, as the Combination Order that established the Fire Authority provided for Members to be appointed from each constituent authority and this was on a political balance basis. The constituent authorities were not obliged to appoint a substitute but there may be occasions when Group Leaders wished this arrangement to apply. Where Members could not attend a Panel meeting that they had been appointed to, a substitute could be appointed by the relevant Group Leader from amongst the members of their Group serving on the Fire Authority.

- 3.5 Members considered that a quorum of 2 for Panel meetings was insufficient. It was agreed that the quorum for Panels be increased to three voting members to be introduced with immediate effect. The report proposed that the political balance requirements should be disapplied to the Principal Officer Appointments Panel so allowing each political group to be represented on the Panel, including the Chairman of the Fire Authority. Members agreed this approach.
- 3.6 Members agreed the following:
- (i) approval of the revised terms of reference for the Scrutiny & Audit Panel;
  - (ii) the quorum for Panels to be amended to 3 voting members with immediate effect;
  - (iii) the Constitution be approved to be brought into effect from the next annual meeting of the Authority, including:
    - (a) the authority to decide sick pay appeals being removed from the Urgency Panel and included in the Human Resources Panel terms of reference;
    - (b) the political balance requirements (sections 15 and 16 of the Local Government Act 1989) shall not apply to the Principal Officer Appointment Panel or the Standards Hearing Panel;
  - (iv) the Chief Fire Officer & Chief Executive and the Monitoring Officer be authorised to make any minor consequential amendments as necessary; and
  - (v) that the next officer led review will be carried out in early 2016

**COUNCILLOR PHILIP HOWSON**  
**CHAIRMAN OF EAST SUSSEX FIRE AUTHORITY**

12 December 2014



**Report to Community Safety Forum – 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2015****Subject: Crime trends and performance in  
Brighton & Hove: Position up to December 2014**

**Contact Officer:** Name: *Ruth Condon* Tel: **29-1103**  
E-mail: [ruth.condon@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto: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 and Crime Reduction Strategy. It also provides statistical updates for key crime groups for 2014/15 to date, ie. the nine months from April to December 2014.
- 1.2 Graphs showing monthly crime data from April 2010 to December 2014 are also provided. These set recent data 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 Following an 8% decline in total crimes in 2013/14, the first nine months of 2014/15 have recorded exactly the same number (17,136) of police recorded total crimes as in the same months in 2013/14.
- 3.2 As reported to the last Forum, there have been changes to police recording of violent crimes introduced in 2014/15 so that they are being recorded more extensively. This has had an effect on some of the types of crime reported here, including injury violence, domestic violence and hate crimes, as well contributing to the number of

## Safe in the City Partnership

total crimes recorded. An explanatory note from Sussex Police is provided at the end of this report.



## **Neighbourhoods and quality of life**

- 3.3 There has been a long term decline in the number of criminal damage offences recorded by the police and numbers have continued to drop in the first nine months of 2014/15, falling by a further 5.5%.
- 3.4 Following a 7% increase in non-accidental fires recorded by the fire service in 2013/14, the first nine months of 2014/15 are showing a 10% decline compared with the same months in 2013/14.
- 3.5 The City Tracker survey in the autumn of 2014 found that 2% of respondents felt unsafe in their **local area** during the day, and 14% felt unsafe after dark. This is similar to the results obtained in 2013, and broadly similar to national levels. However, there is a drop in the percentage of respondents who felt safe (day time: 98% in 2013 and 93% in 2014; after dark: 81% in 2013 and 71% after dark). This brings us into line with national levels for the day time figure, but the result is below that nationally after dark.
- 3.6 When looking at the feeling safe/unsafe data for the **city centre**, overall levels are lower than in people's local area, but the downward trend between 2013 and 2014 is similar. A separate briefing on these data is provided as an appendix with further information and discussion around these perceptions of safety data.
- 3.7 The Community Safety Project Team is involved in the 'Start the Day' initiative, which seeks to reduce the impact of street drinking on the Pavilion Gardens and surrounding area. Working together with community stakeholders including local businesses and the police, the group is made up of community outreach workers and those in various stages of treatment providing important intervention to the street drinking/homeless community. The group regularly sees volunteers from the target communities join in picking litter or provide maintenance support to the gardens in return for some coffee, food and, fundamentally, professional support. The project continues to evolve and adapt in line with the needs of the local community and those whom it seeks to support.

## **Drugs Misuse**

- 3.8 Data from different sources on drug-related deaths have shown an increase in the number recorded in 2013 compared with the previous two years. However, preliminary data for 2014 are suggesting that numbers have dropped back from the level in 2013. The administration of naloxone in cases of opiate overdoses can help to reverse the effects. There has been discussion with St John Ambulance around promoting combined first aid and naloxone training across a range of settings, including emergency call handlers in order to improve the heroin overdose recovery rate.
- 3.9 The Projects Team is also leading, developing and supporting the delivery of a multi-agency response to drug and alcohol issues at the Level. This includes environmental and physical changes to the areas affected and engaging users of the area with services. Following reports of increased needle waste at this location, the provision of sharps bins installed in every toilet is being trialled. Early indications are that this has led to a reduction in the amount of drug related litter found in the area.

## **Alcohol Misuse and Alcohol-related Disorder**

- 3.10 There has been a downward trend in alcohol-related hospital admissions since October 2011. Numbers recorded in 2013/14 were 8% lower than in 2012/13 and

show a further decline of 12% in the first seven months of 2014/15 compared with the same months in 2013/14.

- 3.11 Crimes of injury violence in 2013/14 were 8% fewer than in 2012/13. As reported for the previous meeting, at the beginning of 2014/15 changes to police recording of violent crimes were introduced so that they are now being recorded more extensively (see note at the end of this report for more details). This has had an effect on some of the types of statistics in this report including injury violence, domestic violence and hate incidents, as well as on total crime. As a consequence, the first nine months of 2014/15 has seen a 57% increase in police recorded injury violence crimes compared with the same months of 2013/14.
- 3.12 There are over one hundred off-licences now signed up to 'Sensible on Strength' and it is reported to be now less common to see a street drinker with a high strength drink as a result it is easier for services to engage with these clients.
- 3.13 Further funding for 2014/15 has enabled 'Safe Space' provision to be enhanced for vulnerable people in relation to the night time economy. There has been medical training provided to first aid staff at ten busy bars and nightclubs in the city. A late night bus was provided during Freshers Week for vulnerable students and additional 'safe spaces' provided in the city centre on New Year's Eve.

### **Anti-Social Behaviour and Hate Incidents**

- 3.14 In 2013/14 there were 11% fewer incidents of anti-social behaviour recorded by the police than in 2012/13 and the number has continued to drop in the first nine months of 2014/15 (down a further 1.4%).
- 3.15 In 2013/14 there were 635 contacts in total to the ASB and Hate Incident duty service. In the first nine months of 2014/15 there were 486 contacts: 313 relating to ASB; 49 to race, 2 to religion, 12 to disability, 13 to sexual orientation, 4 to gender identity and 93 others. Over this same period there were 134 new cases for the Casework Team.
- 3.16 As mentioned earlier and evidenced by the graphs and data table at the back of this report, because a significant proportion of hate incidents and crimes come under the police recording category of violence, the changes to police recording is having the effect of raising the numbers recorded, while at the same time, enabling more victims to receive a service. In the first nine months of 2014/15 there were 262 racist, 50 religiously motivated, 111 homophobic, 15 transphobic, and 22 disability-motivated incidents or crimes recorded by the police.
- 3.17 The new ASB Crime and Policing Act came into force in October 2014. Under this new legislation, we have secured one of the first Criminal Behaviour Orders in the country, protecting victims and the public from racist and abusive behaviour, demonstrating that we are prepared to take swift and robust action using the new legislation. This is a result of close working between the police and the council's community safety team.
- 3.18 A successful racist/religiously motivated case outcome has been showcased to generate publicity and confidence in the community to improve reporting generally and targeted at BME taxi drivers. (The perpetrator was banned from using taxis in the city for racially abusing taxi drivers amongst other offences.)
- 3.19 The RHF and communities continue to be increasingly concerned about prevalence and levels of RRMI, racism and Islamophobia. Additionally, international conflicts

## Safe in the City Partnership

and the forthcoming elections with anti-migrant/BME political discourse add to the concerns. Monitoring of reported hate incidents, community tensions and reassurance work is prioritised to reduce risks and concerns.

- 3.20 Work is being undertaken with the Terence Higgins Trust to explore potential to use social media apps to obtain wider outreach with the LGBT population.
- 3.21 'Safe Places' exist across the city for people with learning disabilities to be supported if they are targeted, worried or lost. The Safe Places Steering Group continues to recruit shops/organisations/places to act as a 'safe place' and also promote the initiative to people with learning disabilities.
- 3.22 Partnership work to support and to reduce risks of extremist activity is taking place in response to the five young people from the city travelling to Syria and concerns about their peer network in the city. The Home Office has accepted Brighton & Hove as a Prevent 'Supported Area', and this will mean monitoring of the Prevent work by the Home Office. The Home Office will also offer support for activities in the city. The One Voice partnership, chaired by the council's chief executive, has met with good attendance and participation from the communities and partners. 'Faith Matters', a national charity, has been commissioned to collaborate with the partners and communities to address concerns. Working pro-actively with media to manage community tensions, promoting cohesion and the positive profiling of communities have been identified as important priorities to be taken forward. In addition, 24 people from across partners and communities completed a Home Office accredited, three day interactive course 'Being Muslim Being British' designed to support Prevent interventions. Further one-day training is planned to 'train the trainers' to implement further sessions in the city.

### **Children, Young People and Families**

- 3.23 There were 84 young people aged 10-17 entering the criminal justice system for the first time in 2013/14. There have been 40 first time entrants in the first nine months of 2014/15, representing an improvement on the position last year. A proportion of the offences committed by these young people are assault offences. Youth crime prevention work is seeking to identify and work with those young people at risk of committing violent offences. There are also plans to determine whether there are any locations which are more vulnerable to these offences and to work with partners to reduce risks.
- 3.24 The Youth Offending Service is now located within Social Care services in the local authority enabling better collaborative assessment, planning and intervention. The Early Help Hub is helping to get young people referred to YOS Prevention services at an early stage. This includes pathways from schools and colleges to specialist services. Targeted work this year has been extended to young people with special educational needs, who are experiencing domestic violence or who are sexually exploited.
- 3.25 There has been a gradual reduction in the percentage of young offenders in the city who reoffend, although the rate is still above that nationally. The number of re-offences committed by these young people remains higher than the national average, due to a number of prolific offenders being part of those whose offending is being measured.
- 3.26 Local data on the risk of reoffending is now being monitored to supplement the nationally published data on reoffending which is released with a significant time lag.

This relates to the percentage of statutory interventions successfully completed without reoffending. 36% were successfully completed in quarter 2, rising to 60% in quarter 3, although the completion rate tends to be lower as the sentence tariff increases. Young people who become more prolific entrenched offenders tend to have an early onset of offending and are subject to a range of long standing risk factors, so it's important to identify those young people and work with them at an early stage.

- 3.27 The Youth Offending Service are looking to trial an education programme delivered by the Dogs Trust national charity to reduce risk factors in young people through the medium of dog training.

### **Reducing Offending**

- 3.28 The 4.5% decrease in acquisitive crimes (incl. theft/handling, burglary and robbery) achieved in 2013/14 has continued into 2014/15 with the first nine months of 2014/15 down 17% compared with the same months of 2013/14. The number of domestic burglaries in the first nine months of 2014/15 is 14% lower than the number recorded in the same months of 2013/14 and vehicle crimes are 25% lower.
- 3.29 There have been significant changes to the way in which offender services are being managed within Brighton & Hove, as nationally, in response to the government's Transforming Rehabilitation programme. From the 1st February 2015 Kent, Surrey and Sussex (KSS) Community Rehabilitation Company has been owned by SEETEC. The CRC is responsible for the management of offenders who are assessed as posing a medium and low risk of harm to the public, and for a range of interventions designed to reduce offending. The CRC is to be responsible for the supervision of 'short sentenced' prisoners and increased 'through the gate' support for prisoners.

### **Violence against Women & Girls, Exploitation and Modern Slavery**

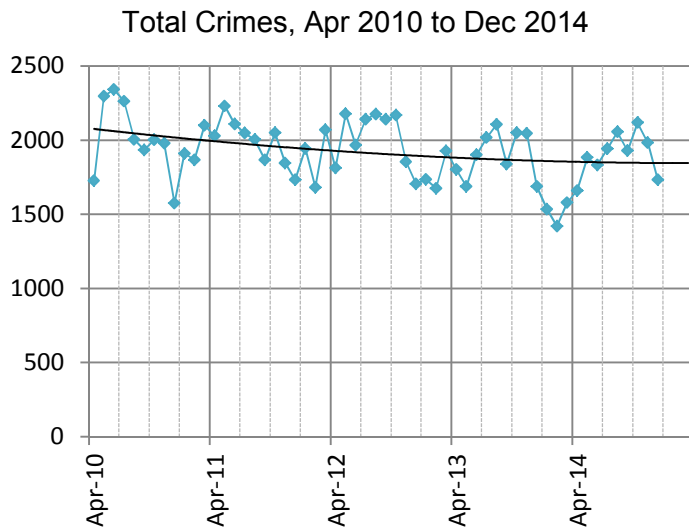
- 3.30 In 2013/14 there were 3,668 domestic violence crimes and incidents (1,075 of which were crimes and 2,593 were incidents) recorded on the police crime database. Numbers of crimes and incidents recorded in the first nine months of 2014/15 have increased by 15% compared with the same months in 2013/14. The steps to ensure police recording of violent crimes is being done more extensively (referred to earlier in this report) will have had a bearing on the increase seen here. In common with the recording of domestic and other violent offences, sexual offences have also increased in the first nine months of 2014/15 – up by 33%.
- 3.31 Stalking began to be recorded by the police in April 2014 and between then and December there were 11 such crimes and incidents recorded in Brighton & Hove.
- 3.32 The numbers of finalised prosecutions for domestic violence, as well as those resulting in a conviction, increased in 2013/14 compared with 2012/13 and the success rate of 73% is slightly below the national average. The successful prosecution rate in the first nine months of 2014/15 remains at this same level.
- 3.33 East Sussex and Brighton & Hove are undertaking a joint commissioning process for domestic violence and abuse, rape and sexual violence and abuse specialist services. This would mean that Independent Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence Adviser functions will operate across the two local authority areas. The process is scheduled to conclude with the successful provider/s in place by October 2015.

## Safe in the City Partnership

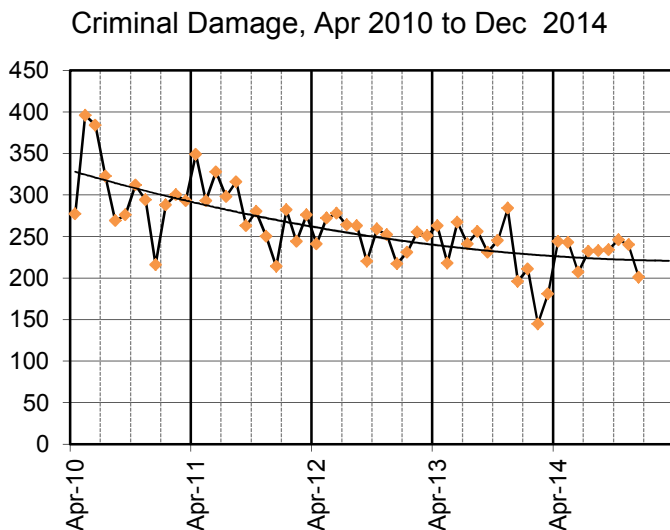
- 3.34 Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), as well as other harmful traditional practices, is high on the national agenda. A working group is meeting in February 2015 to begin working on this agenda following the completion of scoping work by Public Health in 2014. This will include sustaining specialist capacity to engage with BME communities.
- 3.35 Child Sexual Exploitation continues to be a priority area and there is ongoing work to ensure that there is robust strategic and operational management and, in particular, that good practice responses are in place.
- 3.36 Sussex Police have carried out an intelligence review of modern slavery in Brighton and Hove looking at data over the last year. While information is still sparse, it starts to help the partnership understand the sort of modern slavery incidents which may be taking place in the city. Work to encourage partners to spot possible signs of modern slavery is being carried out, so this should help to increase intelligence reports and enable support and enforcement work to be targeted.

# Safe in the City Partnership

## Crime trends up to December 2014 (monthly data)<sup>1</sup>



3.37 The number of crimes recorded by the police continues to demonstrate a seasonal pattern with higher numbers the summer than the winter months. Following an exceptionally low number at the end of 2013/14, there has been a steady rise since Apr 2014 in line with season expectations, although changes to police recording (see below) may be contributing to the extent of the rise.

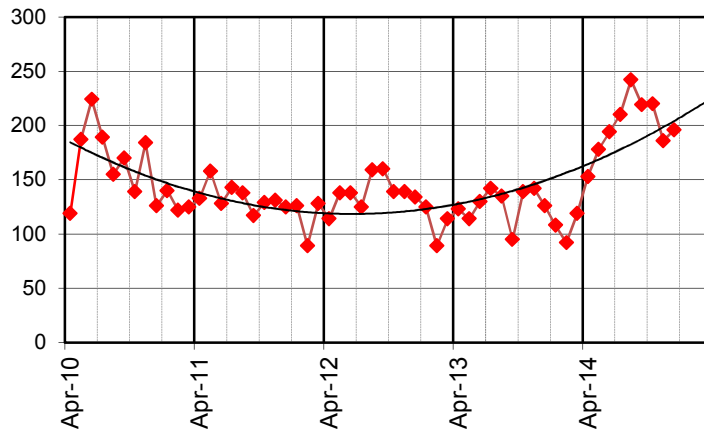


3.38 The long term downward trend in criminal damage continues. Feb and Mar 2014 experienced particularly low numbers, but since Apr numbers have resumed a more typical level.

<sup>1</sup> Trend lines are based on the best fitting 2<sup>nd</sup> order polynomial curve

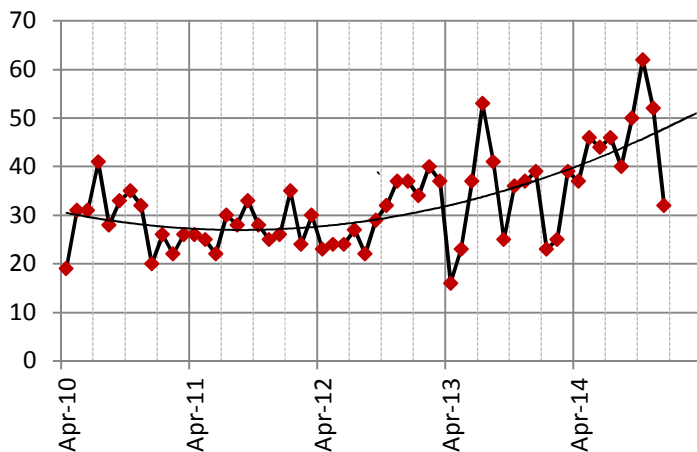
# Safe in the City Partnership

All Injury Violence  
Apr 2010 to Dec 2014



3.39 The long term trend up to the end of Mar 2014 was downwards. Although a seasonal increase would be anticipated in the summer months, there have been changes to police recording since Apr 2014 which is resulting in a steep increase in numbers compared with the previous year (further information provided at the end of this report).

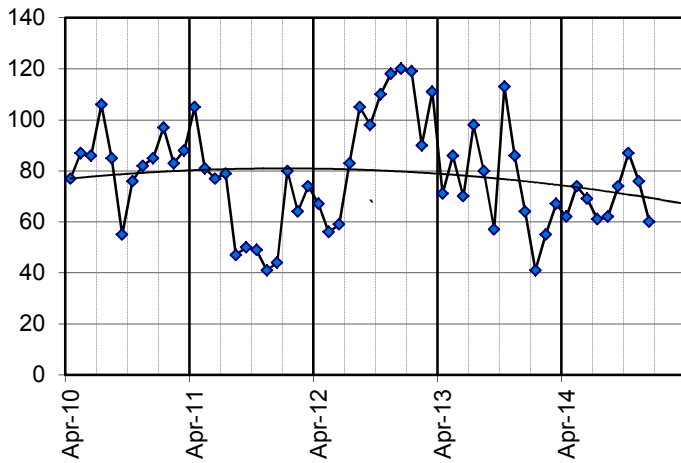
Sexual Offences,  
Apr 2010 to Dec 2014



3.40 Delayed data entry at the beginning of 2013/14 and changes in police recording at the beginning of 2014/15 (as for violent crimes above) have meant that trends in the graph do not necessarily reflect the actual occurrence of sexual offences.

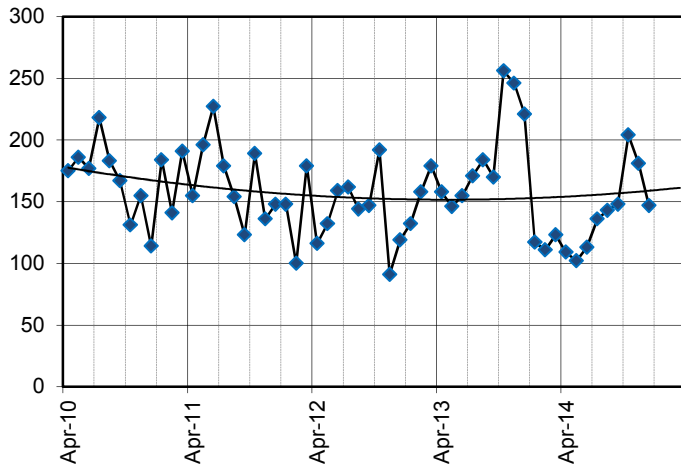
# Safe in the City Partnership

Domestic Burglary, Apr 2010 to Dec 2014



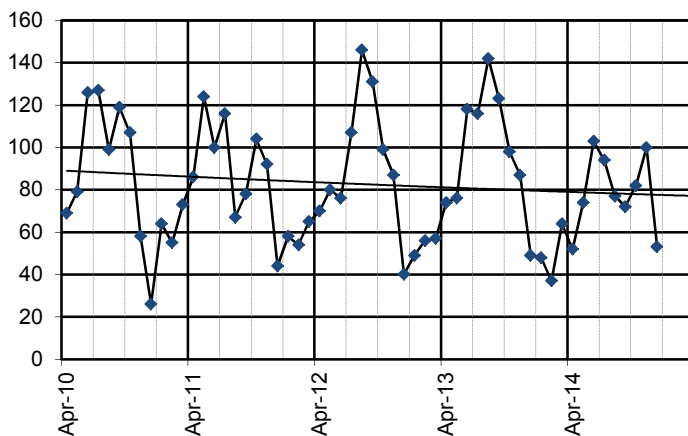
3.41 The number of domestic burglaries has broadly been declining since a peak in the winter of 2012/13. Since Apr 2014 the number of domestic burglaries per month has ranged between 60 and 80 except for October when there were 87 recorded.

Vehicle Crime, Apr 2010 to Dec 2014



3.42 The number of vehicle crimes have generally been on a long term decline. Following a spate of vehicle crime between Oct and Dec 2013, numbers resumed a relatively low level again. A further spike was seen in the autumn of 2014, but numbers dropped again in Dec.

Theft of a Pedal Cycle, Apr 2010 to Dec 2014

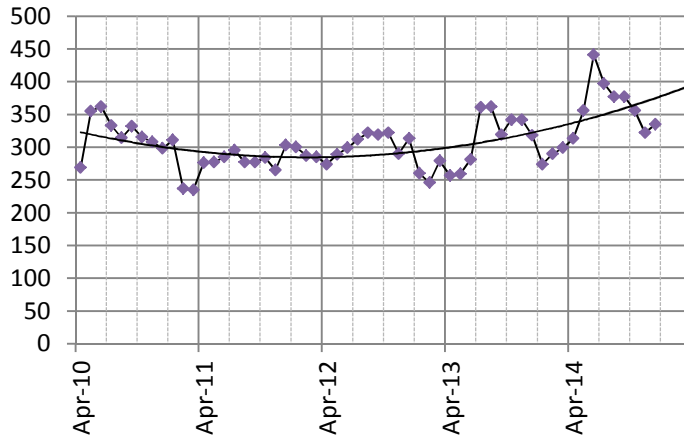


3.43 A strong seasonal pattern in cycle thefts is normally observed every year and is linked to those months when more people tend to cycle. However, the rise during the summer of 2014 was less than in previous years.



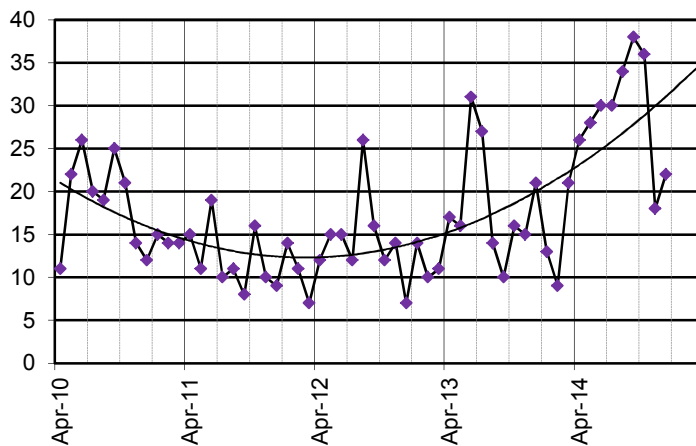
Police crime data presented in this report only reflect those crimes which are reported and recorded. There is likely to be a level of underreporting in many crime types. However, domestic violence and the hate crimes on this page may be particularly liable to underreporting.

**Domestic Violence Crimes & Incidents,  
Apr 2010 - Dec 2014**



3.44 As mentioned earlier in the report, police recorded violent crimes since Apr have been subject to more robust recording processes and this has affected the recording of domestic violence and hate crimes which are all showing a notable increase in recent months compared with the same months in 2013/14.

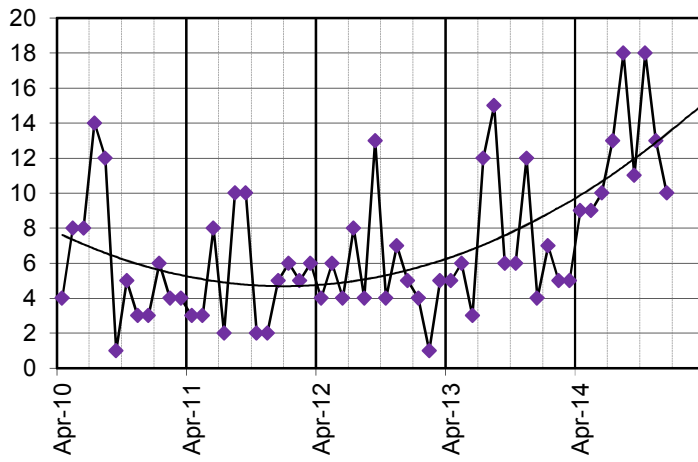
**Racist Crimes and Incidents  
(police data), Apr 2010 to Dec 2014**



See above

# Safe in the City Partnership

Homophobic Crimes & Incidents  
police data), Apr 2010 to Dec 2014



See above

# Safe in the City Partnership

## Crime statistics 2014/15: position at end December 2014

	number of crimes Apr-Dec 2013	number of crimes Apr-Dec 2014	rank within 15 benchmarked CSPs <sup>2</sup>
<b>Police recorded crimes</b>			
<b>Total Crimes</b>	<b>17136</b>	<b>17136</b>	<b>11</b>
Criminal Damage	2201	2080	7
Injury Violence	1146	1798	12
Sexual Offences	307	409	n/a <sup>3</sup>
Domestic Burglary	725	625	5
Theft from/of a Motor Vehicle	1707	1283	9
Theft and handling (excl. motor vehicle theft)	8767	7463	13
Pedal Cycle Theft	883	707	9
<b>Police recorded crimes and crime-related incidents</b>			
Domestic Violence Crimes and Incidents <sup>4</sup>	2841	3274	n/a
Racist Crimes and Incidents	167	262	n/a
Religiously-motivated Crimes & Incidents	21	50	n/a
Homophobic Crimes and Incidents	69	111	n/a
Transphobic Crimes and Incidents	13	15	n/a
Disability Hate Crimes and Incidents	15	22	n/a

<sup>2</sup> 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. Data reflect the ranking for the most recent three month period.

<sup>3</sup> In comparison with our benchmarked group, we rank 10 for sexual offences. However, 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.

<sup>4</sup> This includes incidents where the victim is of any age, not just 16 and over as in the national definition, so will be a slight overestimate.

### **Note from Sussex Police on violent crime data in 2014/15**

Overall we've seen a reduction in the number of violent incidents in the City. However the number of recorded crimes has shown an increase. This is because of work which has been done across Sussex and for all forces nationally to ensure that all crimes are accurately and correctly recorded and that incidents are correctly classified. This is a statistical trend replicated across Sussex and the country.

The City is not becoming a more dangerous place. Compared with the same period last year, we have solved more violent crime within the City – this means we've caught and brought more people to justice. However, percentages show a reduction in our solved rate due to this increased recording of violent crime.

The highest increases in recording have been of minor injury assaults, many of which occur during the night time economy where victims are sometimes reluctant to provide details to the police. These types of incidents are now being accurately recorded.

In addition, the number of calls which we've received in relation to violent crime has shown a significant drop (of approximately 17%). This is a strong indication that the rise is due to better recording and more offenders being brought to justice.

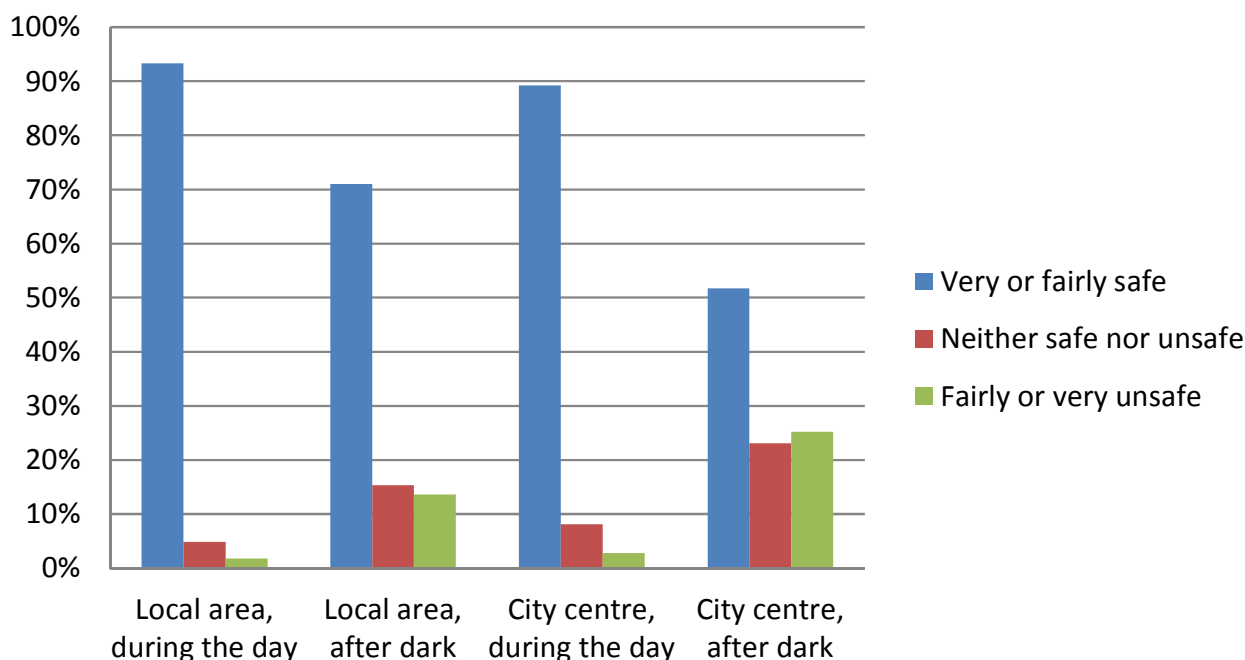
Sussex Police is doing all it can to protect vulnerable victims, bring offenders to justice and keep the public safe. The increase in recorded crimes means that we are able to give victims the support they need, and have trust and confidence in our service when they report a crime to us.

## Appendix

### City Tracker Survey 2014: Results of 'how safe do you feel...' questions<sup>5</sup>

The City Tracker telephone survey was most recently carried out in September and October, 2014 and results were obtained from just over 1000 respondents. This included some questions about feelings of safety.

#### Percentage of respondents feeling safe or unsafe when answering 'how safe do you feel...' questions City Tracker, 2014



#### Key findings from the 2014 survey:

- During the day 93% safe (very or fairly safe) in their local area; slightly fewer (89%) felt safe in the city centre during the day.
- After dark, 71% felt safe in their local area. The percentage was, again lower in the city centre at 52%
- During the day 2% felt unsafe (fairly or very unsafe) in their local area; roughly the same percentage (3%) felt unsafe in the city centre during the day.
- After dark, 14% felt unsafe in their local area. The percentage was, higher in the city centre at 25%

<sup>5</sup> Results calculated excluding those who respond 'don't know'

After dark, there are some groups of residents who tend to feel less safe than others:

- Female residents (19%) report feeling more unsafe than males (7%) in their local area. Females (32%) also feel more unsafe in the city centre than males (17%)
- People with a limiting long term illness or disability (34%) are more likely to report feeling unsafe in their local area compared with other residents (10%). This effect is also seen in the city centre (48% compared with 22% respectively)
- People in the over 55 years (20%) category are more likely to feel unsafe in their local area than 35-54s (11%) and 18-34s (12%).

## Direction of travel:

These questions have been asked as part of the City Tracker survey in each of the last three years, so that information on trends can be obtained. Between 2012 and 2013, broadly speaking the results followed a similar pattern, without any clear trends towards people feeling safer or less safe. However, between 2013 and 2014 some differences are apparent:

- There is a consistent drop in the percentage of people reporting that they feel safe. This is the case whether during the day, or after dark, or in their local area or in the city centre. The drop is between about 4 and 12 percentage points under the different scenarios.
- However, when looking at the percentage of people reporting that they feel unsafe, there is little change between 2013 and 2014. The slight exception to this was after dark in the city centre when the percentage of respondents feeling unsafe dropped slightly (as well as the percentage of those feeling safe also dropping).
- These two findings are possible because the proportion of respondents reporting that they felt neither safe nor unsafe has increased quite sharply between the 2013 and 2014 surveys.
- The Local Government Association provide national figures for how safe people feel in their local area during the day and after dark. The corresponding national figures for 2014 surveyed at the same time of year as our local survey, are 95% feeling safe

### Feeling safe in your local area

During the day	2012	2013	2014
Very or fairly safe	98.3%	97.5%	93.3%
Neither safe nor unsafe	1.0%	1.5%	4.9%
Fairly or very unsafe	0.7%	1.0%	1.8%

After dark	2012	2013	2014
Very or fairly safe	80.6%	80.8%	71.0%
Neither safe nor unsafe	7.0%	4.7%	15.4%
Fairly or very unsafe	12.4%	14.5%	13.6%

### Feeling safe in the city centre

During the day	2012	2013	2014
Very or fairly safe	96.8%	96.0%	89.2%
Neither safe nor unsafe	1.6%	2.2%	8.1%
Fairly or very unsafe	1.5%	2.0%	2.8%

After dark	2012	2013	2014
Very or fairly safe	60.7%	63.6%	51.7%
Neither safe nor unsafe	10.2%	8.3%	23.1%
Fairly or very unsafe	29.1%	28.1%	25.2%

# Safe in the City Partnership

during the day (compared with 93% locally) and 79% feeling safe after dark (compared with 70% locally).

### Why do people feel safe or unsafe?

Information has been collected in the past through the Citizen’s Panel on the factors which influence how safe or unsafe people feel. Although this information is now quite old (2004), it may still have some relevance. Reasons for feeling safe or unsafe in Brighton & Hove as reported at that time are summarised in the following table.

### Factors contributing to feelings of safety (Citizens Panel, 2004)

Factors contributing to...	Feeling safe	Feeling unsafe
<b>In own neighbourhood</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowing your neighbours/having good neighbours</li> <li>• Familiarity with local area</li> <li>• Police presence</li> <li>• Good lighting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of police</li> <li>• Poor street lighting</li> <li>• Drunken behaviour/alcohol misuse</li> </ul>
<b>In the city centre</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Having other well behaved people around</li> <li>• Police presence</li> <li>• Good lighting</li> <li>• Reliable and frequent public transport and taxis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drunken behaviour/alcohol misuse</li> <li>• Poor street lighting</li> <li>• Lack of police</li> <li>• People begging</li> <li>• Gangs of youths</li> <li>• Traffic or inconsiderate driving</li> </ul>

Although information on the factors behind people feeling safe or unsafe was not specifically collected in the 2014 City Tracker survey, some respondents mentioned, street lighting, police presence and drunken behaviour as priorities for attention.

### Discussion:

A drop in satisfaction scores was reported across a range of measures from the 2014 City Tracker survey and the drop in the percentage of people feeling safe is in line with the drop across a number of other questions in this survey (eg. people feeling satisfied with their street and their local area as a place to live) compared with the 2013 results.

It is difficult to understand why the proportion of respondents who are responding that they feel neither safe nor unsafe has increased between three- and four-fold between the 2013 and 2014 surveys. It should be noted that there was a similar jump between these two surveys in the size of the neutral group across many of the City Tracker questions (eg. people feeling satisfied with their street and their local area as a place to live).

The methodology and scripts used during the telephone interviews have been kept consistent as far as possible between surveys. However, there have been some 'technical' factors which have the potential to have influenced the findings. These are:

- A change in company contracted to carry out the City Tracker survey between 2013 and 2014
- Small differences in the proportion of respondents contacted by different telephone sampling methods
- Additional face to face surveys carried out in 2013 in order to obtain matched quotas, especially young males and BME participants.
- Differences in the preceding questions between the two surveys, although the 'how safe do you feel' questions were relatively early in the questionnaire for the process of undertaking the questionnaire to have had too much of an effect.

While any of these factors may possibly have had some influence on the results, the reason for the drop in the feeling safe data as well as across other measures is not fully understood.



**Report to Community Safety Forum – 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2015****Subject: Child Sexual Exploitation****Contact Officer:** Name: *Deb Austin* Tel: **29-5237**

E-mail: Deb.austin@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk

**Wards Affected:** All**1.0 What is meant by Child Sexual Exploitation?**

1.1 There are a number of definitions of what constitutes child sexual exploitation (CSE) but across partnership working within Brighton & Hove, the definition devised by the National Working Group for Sexually Exploited Children and Young People (2008) is used:

"Sexual exploitation of children and young people under 18 involves exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where young people (or a third person or persons) receive 'something' (e.g. food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of performing, and/or others performing on them, sexual activities. Child sexual exploitation can occur through use of technology without the child's immediate recognition, for example the persuasion to post sexual images on the internet/mobile phones with no immediate payment or gain. In all cases those exploiting the child/young person have power over them by virtue of their age, gender, intellect, physical strength and/or economic or other resources. Violence, coercion and intimidation are common, involvement in exploitative relationship being characterised in the main by the child or young person's limited availability of choice resulting from their social/economic and/or emotional vulnerability."

Such abuse can be further defined using the 3 models defined by Barnados (2011)<sup>1</sup>:

*Abuse model 1 – Inappropriate relationships:* Usually involved one abuser who has inappropriate power - physical, emotional or financial – or control over a young person. The young person may believe they have a genuine friendship or loving relationship with their abuser.

*Abuse model 2 – Boyfriend:* Abuser grooms victim by striking up a normal relationship with them, giving them gifts etc. A seemingly consensual relationship develops but later turns abusive. Victims are required to attend parties and have sex with multiple men and threatened with violence if they

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<sup>1</sup> Puppet on a String: The urgent need to cut children free from sexual exploitation, Barnados (2011)

refuse/try to seek help. They may also be required to introduce their friends as new victims.

*Abuse model 3 – Organised exploitation and trafficking:* Victims are trafficked through criminal networks - often between towns and cities - and forced or coerced into sex with multiple men. They may also be used to recruit new victims. This serious organised activity can involve the buying and selling of young people.

- 1.2 CSE is a complex and difficult abuse to investigate and support the victims of. Often children and young people subject to CSE don't view what is happening to them as abuse and this, coupled with the fact they can be some of the most hard to reach and difficult to engage young people within the city, means providing support and protection is a complex task that requires perseverance and tenacity.

### **2.0 What we are doing about CSE in Brighton & Hove:**

- 2.1 The identification of and support to children and young people within Brighton & Hove at risk of CSE has developed significantly over the past 12 months:
- Sussex Police (Feb 14) have undertaken a strategic profile of CSE across Brighton & Hove, East and West Sussex. Operation Kite, launched in May 14, is a Sussex police initiative around the reporting and identification of children and young people who are at risk of CSE across East and West Sussex and Brighton and Hove.
  - A multi agency group, the Red Op Kite CSE Risk Management Meeting, convenes on a monthly basis to consider child and young people who have been identified at risk of CSE and to assess the level of that risk. Those children and young people identified as at high risk (i.e. Red) are discussed at every meeting and agencies work together to provide a joined up response that mitigates that risk. Multi agency attendance at the meetings is excellent with representations from health; schools; community safety; YOS; RuOK; SW teams: police; WiSE (YMCA Downslink Group).
  - The Red Op Kite CSE Risk Management Meeting reports into a CSE Operational Group that has responsibility for co-ordinating the "Protect" and "Pursue" agendas around CSE. This multiagency group, chaired by Sussex police and attended by all partner agencies, considers how agencies work together to meet the needs of children and young people identified at risk of CSE. It also considers how the perpetrators of CSE within the city can be effectively pursued.
  - In February 2015 Children's Services launched a specialist Missing and CSE team (Kite Team) which is co-located with the Police Missing Co-ordinator and CSE lead at the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub. This team will work with the most complex children and young people identified as either persistently missing and/or at high risk of CSE. The team will take an assertive outreach approach to their work with young people, in recognition

that this cohort can be some of the most difficult children and young people to engage.

- Children’s Services have commissioned Alter Ego theatre company to perform Chelsea’s Choice, an acclaimed play which highlights the serious and emotional impact of CSE, in the city’s high schools during March 2015. These performances will be supported by specialist social workers and police officers, to ensure that children are in receipt of appropriate supports and services afterwards.
- The Local Safeguarding Children’s Board provides free training around CSE to professionals working with children across the city. This training is provided by WiSE, who have over the past 4 months, delivered CSE awareness and recognition training to all children’s social workers in the city.
- A data mining exercise has been undertaken to explore patterns and trends around CSE across the city, so that “hot spots” can be identified and appropriate supports put in place. Using the warning signs and vulnerability indicators developed by the Office of the Children’s Commissioner<sup>2</sup> and cross referencing with data available from children’s social work, schools, and the Youth Offending Service, those young people with 4 or more indicators of CSE have been identified. In addition to testing the reliability of the current identification process, this data trawling will highlight those young people who might otherwise not be known in the context of CSE to statutory service. The results of this exercise are to be discussed at a meeting in March 2015.
- The identification of boys and young men who are victims of CSE is thought to be nationally under-reported<sup>3</sup>. Within Brighton & Hove a task and finish group has been established (Feb 15) with partners from across both statutory and voluntary sectors to devise ways of working together to improve early identification and prevention to this cohort of young people. The work of this group will feed into a soon to be established “Prevent” and “Identification” CSE group which will be responsible for co-ordinating the multi-agency response to early identification and prevention of CSE within Brighton & Hove.

Deb Austin  
Head of Safeguarding  
BHCC – Children’s Services  
Feb 2015

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<sup>2</sup> The Office of the Children’s Commissioner’s Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Gangs and Groups (Nov 2013)

<sup>3</sup> Hidden in plain sight – a scoping study into the sexual exploitation of boys and young men in the UK, Barnados (Aug 2014)

