




Brighton & Hove
City Council

Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities Committee

Title:	Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities Committee
Date:	2 July 2018
Time:	4.00pm
Venue	Council Chamber, Hove Town Hall
Members:	Councillors: Daniel (Chair), Marsh (Deputy Chair), Nemeth (Opposition Spokesperson), West (Group Spokesperson), Cattell, Morgan, A Norman, K Norman, Peltzer Dunn and Phillips
Contact:	Penny Jennings Democratic Services Officer 01273 291065 penny.jennings@brighton-hove.gov.uk
	The Town Hall has facilities for wheelchair users, including lifts and toilets
	Infra-red hearing aids are available for use during the meeting. If you require any further information or assistance, please contact the receptionist on arrival.
	FIRE / EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE If the fire alarm sounds continuously, or if you are instructed to do so, you must leave the building by the nearest available exit. You will be directed to the nearest exit by council staff. It is vital that you follow their instructions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• You should proceed calmly; do not run and do not use the lifts;• Do not stop to collect personal belongings;• Once you are outside, please do not wait immediately next to the building, but move some distance away and await further instructions; and• Do not re-enter the building until told that it is safe to do so.

AGENDA

PART ONE

Page

1 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

- (a) **Declarations 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;
 - (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.

- (c) **Exclusion of Press and Public:** To consider whether, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, the press and public should be excluded from the meeting when any of the following items are under consideration.

Note: Any item appearing in Part Two of the agenda states in its heading the category under which the information disclosed in the report is exempt from disclosure and therefore not available to the press and public.

A list and description of the exempt categories is available for public inspection at Brighton and Hove Town Halls and on-line in the Constitution at part 7.1.

2 MINUTES

7 - 22

To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2018 (copy attached).

Contact Officer: Penny Jennings
Ward Affected: All Wards

Tel: 01273 291065

3 CHAIRS COMMUNICATIONS

4 CALL OVER

- (a) Items (7 – 11) will be read out at the meeting and Members invited to reserve the items for consideration.
- (b) Those items not reserved will be taken as having been received and the reports' recommendations agreed.

5 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

23 - 24

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 26 June 2018 (copy attached).
- (c) **Deputations:** To receive any deputations submitted by the due date of 12 noon on the 26 June 2018.

6 MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

To consider the following matters raised by Members:

- (a) **Petitions:** To receive any petitions referred from Full Council or submitted directly to the Committee;
- (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 Full Council or submitted directly to the Committee.

7 UNIVERSAL CREDIT UPDATE

25 - 42

Joint report of Executive Director, Finance and Resources & Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities & Housing (copy attached)

Contact Officer: *John Francis*

Tel: *01273 291913*

Ward Affected: *All Wards*

8 PRESENTATION(S)

Before proceeding to the formal business of the meeting there will be a presentation(s) on:

Digital Inclusion - Update

NEIGHBOURHOODS, INCLUSION, COMMUNITIES & EQUALITIES COMMITTEE

The impact of Universal Credit roll out in Brighton and Hove. This will include perspectives as experienced by the Community and Voluntary Sector, "Moneyworks", the Hangleton & Knoll Project and Brighton & Hove City Council;

Following the presentation Members will have the opportunity to ask questions after which there will be a short break before proceeding to the formal business of the agenda.

- 9 COMMUNITY SAFETY & CRIME IN BRIGHTON & HOVE 43 - 54**
- Report of Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities & Housing (copy attached)
- Contact Officer: Jo Player Tel: 01273 292488*
Ward Affected: All Wards
- 10 DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL ABUSE: FUTURE COMMISSIONING OPTIONS 55 - 68**
- Report of Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities & Housing (copy attached)
- Contact Officer: Jo Player Tel: 01273 292488*
Ward Affected: All Wards
- 11 REVIEW OF WARD BUDGET SCHEME 69 - 76**
- Report of Executive Lead Officer for Strategy, Governance and Law (copy attached)
- Contact Officer: Mark Wall Tel: 01273 291006*
Ward Affected: All Wards
- 12 ITEMS REFERRED FOR FULL COUNCIL**
- To consider items to be submitted to Council for information.

In accordance with Procedure Rule 24.3a, the Committee may determine that any item is to be included in its report to Council. In addition, any Group may specify one further item to be included by notifying the Chief Executive no later than 10am on the eighth working day before the Council meeting at which the report is to be made, or if the Committee meeting take place after this deadline, immediately at the conclusion of the Committee meeting

NEIGHBOURHOODS, INCLUSION, COMMUNITIES & EQUALITIES COMMITTEE

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

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

Agendas and minutes are published on the council's website www.brighton-hove.gov.uk. Agendas are available to view five working days prior to the meeting date.

Electronic agendas can also be accessed through our meetings app available through www.moderngov.co.uk

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

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

WEBCASTING NOTICE

This meeting may be filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's website. At the start of the meeting the Chair will confirm if all or part of the meeting is being filmed. You should be aware that the Council is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act 1998. Data collected during this web cast will be retained in accordance with the Council's published policy (Guidance for Employees' on the BHCC website).

ACCESS NOTICE

The lift cannot be used in an emergency. Evac Chairs are available for self-transfer and you are requested to inform Reception prior to going up to the Public Gallery. **For your own safety please do not go beyond the Ground Floor if you are unable to use the stairs.**

Please inform staff on Reception if this affects you so that you can be directed to the Council Chamber where you can watch the meeting or if you need to take part in the proceedings e.g. because you have submitted a public question.

Date of Publication - Friday, 22 June 2018

BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL

NEIGHBOURHOODS, INCLUSION, COMMUNITIES & EQUALITIES COMMITTEE

4.00pm 19 MARCH 2018

COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL

MINUTES

Present: Councillors Daniel (Chair); Councillor Moonan (Deputy Chair), A Norman (Opposition Spokesperson), West (Group Spokesperson), Greenbaum, Meadows, K Norman, Peltzer Dunn and Simson.

Invitees: Chief Superintendent Lisa Bell (Sussex Police); Chris Clark (Clinical Commissioning Group); Anusree Biswas Sassidharan (BME Police Engagement Group); and Jessica Sumner (Hangleton & Knoll Project)

PART ONE

63 PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

Screening of Short Film “The Silent Child”

Before proceeding to consider business of the meeting including the presentation given by representatives from the St Giles’ Trust the Committee and Members of the Public attending the meeting had the opportunity to attend a screening of the Oscar winning short film entitled “The Silent Child”.

63a Declaration of Substitutes

63.1 Councillor Greenbaum was present in substitution for Councillor Knight and Councillor Meadows was in attendance in substitution for Councillor Bewick. Jessica Sumner was in attendance in substitution for Joanna Martindale. Chris Clark was welcomed in attendance on behalf of the CCG.

63b Declarations of Interest

63.2 There were none, although Councillor Daniel the Chair referred to the fact that she worked for Hamilton Lodge School and College for deaf children and that in that capacity she had used her discretion and invited a pupil of the school and

representatives on behalf of the deaf community to address the Committee and in order to facilitate their involvement the meeting would be signed by representatives of the British Sign Language Association.

62c Exclusion of Press and Public

62.3 In accordance with Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 (“The Act”), the Committee 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 business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of the press and public were present during that item, that 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 100(1) of the Act).

62.4 **RESOLVED** – That the press and public be not excluded during consideration of any item appearing on the agenda.

64 PRESENTATION(S)

64.1 Evan Jones and Elroy Palmer were in attendance on behalf of the St Giles’ Trust SOS Project to outline the work being undertaken in order to address County Lines across the South East also, the countrywide links that were established and the on-going work which was taking place. Their work comprised a number of inter-related strands which included support work in concert with other agencies/partners, preventative work and training/outreach programmes.

64.2 Work was being undertaken in partnership with missing people organisations in order to offer flexible support to young people and children in order to help them to exit county lines drug distribution networks, reconnect with their families and move away from drugs, crime and exploitation. Preventative was also undertaken with young people at risk of gang crime which aimed to help prevent them becoming caught up in this lifestyle. Ex-offenders trained by the Giles’ Trust worked within schools to educate particularly with regard to weapons, this programme was based in London but was also delivered in locations outside the capital.

64.3 In addition, the SOS Training Outreach Programme (S.T.O.P.) delivered increased understanding of gangs and associated issues for professionals and front-line practitioners. Course elements included gangs; girls at risk of sexual exploitation; non-violent resistance; reducing and managing conflict, amongst other topics.

64.4 Chief Superintendent Lisa Bell stated that the Police recognised the important contribution provided which worked in concert with and dovetailed with the work being undertaken by the Police.

64.5 Following the presentation Members had the opportunity to ask questions before proceeding to consider the remaining business on the agenda, Messrs Jones a Palmer were thanked for their informative presentation, applauding the work that was being carried forward to address this.

65 MINUTES

65.1 It was noted that Councillor Penn had attended the previous meeting in substitution for Councillor Moonan.

65.2 **RESOLVED** – That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 January 2018 be approved and signed as a correct record.

66 CHAIRS COMMUNICATIONS

“My Pronouns Are ...”

66.1 The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and referred to “My Pronouns Are” explaining that the following week the council and other partners in the city would be encouraging staff to voluntarily wear badges pointing out that you could not assume what someone’s gender or pronouns were. That afternoon’s meeting was being used as an opportunity to launch this campaign and those attending the meeting may have noticed that badges and postcards explaining this were on display at the entrance to the meeting room.

66.2 Everyone defined their own gender and we should respect other people’s identities and rights. These days there was more freedom and safety to be yourself but there was still more work to do. We needed to increase education and awareness in the city and beyond as a person might not match what you expected and might not be defined easily. Making assumptions could be hurtful and distressing, so it was helpful to know what pronouns people used. If someone’s pronouns differed from what you assumed it was for you to adapt and to remember that it was ok to ask. These badges were a small step towards making positive change happen and sent a message that people should be free to be who they truly were.

66.3 The Chair stated that she would like to encourage everyone at the meeting including speakers and partners to wear a badge if they wished and to share their support on Twitter and Facebook using # MyPronounsAre.

66.4 The Chair stated that in closing she just wanted to say that this had been a team effort by many organisations in the city, and that she wanted to personally thank the support and collaboration from the council’s campaigning partners including local NHS trusts, Sussex Police, East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service, the Universities, American Express, Healthwatch, Trans Alliance, LGBT Switchboard, All Sorts Youth Project, The Clare Project and the council’s very own LGBT Worker’s Forum.

66.5 **RESOLVED** - That the content of the Chair’s Communications be received and noted.

67 CALL OVER

67.1 All Items on the agenda were called for discussion with the exception of item 71 the recommendations contained in which were agreed without discussion.

68 PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

68a Petitions

68.1 There were none.

68b Written Questions

68.2 It was noted that two public questions had been received. The questions and responses given in respect of each are set out below:

Hove Carnegie Library

68.3 A question had been received from Mr Christopher Hawtree who was invited to put his question.

“Would Councillor Daniel please tell what stages have been reached in the proposals for a nursery and café at Hove’s Carnegie Library”.

The following response was provided:

“I am pleased to tell you that we are finalising the agreements with the nursery and the café that are going into Hove Library, and that if all goes well, both facilities will be up and running in September. We will be announcing further details as soon as we can.

We are still waiting for Listed Building Consent for changes to Hove Library to accommodate the nursery and café. Once this is received, the works will take place, together with some building maintenance and improvements such as some new flooring and decoration in some parts of the library. The library will remain open during these works, although sections will need to be cordoned off while work takes place.”

Mr Hawtree was invited to ask a supplementary question. He asked whether/when it was agreed that a nursery facility would be provided and whether members had been made aware that the existing radial shelving which dated from 1908 would need to be removed and the rationale for that decision. It was agreed that information would be provided following the meeting and would be set out in the minutes. This is set out below:

“The ‘radial shelves’ to which Mr Hawtree refers can be found in the semi-circular part of the ground floor of Hove Library. In total there are 180 radial shelves and 109 wooden shelves around the windows, total 289 shelves in this area. The current proposals for the ground floor will see 48 radial shelves and 33 wooden shelves around the windows removed. This will leave 132 radial and 76 wooden shelves around the windows left, i.e. 72% of the shelving in that area. All of the shelves taken out will be replaced in other parts of the ground floor as part of the changes.

The rationale for this proposal is that the removal of the staff facilities in the basement means alternative facilities are needed elsewhere in the library. The existing staff office on the upper floor is being widened to accommodate staff office facilities, but a small staff kitchenette and rest room is also needed. The potential locations for this facility are limited, and as utilities are being provided on the ground floor for café facilities, it made sense to locate the staff kitchenette next to the café so that the same water and waste pipes can service both.

PSPO's in Brighton and Hove

68.4 The following question had been received from Ms Angela Barnet. Ms Barnett was invited to put her question and also had the opportunity to ask one supplementary question should she so wish.

“Before implementing PSPO's in Brighton & Hove we were assured that the new prohibitions would not disproportionately affect gypsies, travellers or the homeless. In the light of the review report showing that 123 warning letters were issued only to “encampments” and additionally that PSPO's were used as a method to encourage homeless people sheltering in tents to move, how are you going to ensure that future use of this legislation, will not result in further persecution of rough sleepers, gypsies and travellers, especially considering the new Government Guidance and the lack of available alternative provision in the city?”.

68.5 The Chair gave the following response:

“A light touch approach had been applied to this issue in Brighton and Hove and PSPO's had only been used to deal with a particular nuisance or problem in an area that was detrimental to the local community's quality of life by imposing conditions on the use of that area which applied to everyone. Whilst a sensitive approach was applied the Council had to balance the needs of all in the city including those of neighbouring residents.”

68.6 Ms Barnett asked further what approach the Council was adopting to ensure that the travelling/homeless community were not unfairly effected by the potential draconian measures which were contained within PSPO's.

68.7 The Chair responded stating that she understood Ms Barnett's concerns, confirming that a blanket approach was not used when dealing with encampment and other traveller sites across the city. No one had been fined and the Council took its welfare role towards those who were vulnerable very seriously. In the case of individuals who were homeless or had identified issues they were signposted towards appropriate services. Where issues had been identified in relation to on-going issues at specific/identified sites albeit sensitively, those issues could not go unaddressed and the needs of all living in that community had to be balanced very carefully. She further stated that she would be happy to facilitate further engagement on this matter outside of the committee process.

68c Deputations

Why BSL is Important to me

68.9 Ayesha Denny from Hamilton Lodge School was invited to put her Deputation. She explained the importance of British Sign Language (BSL) to her and the importance of the work carried out to ensure that pledges contained in phase 1 of the project were carried forward. Signers on behalf of BSL were present throughout and in connection with the following item on the agenda, Item 70, “Progress Update on British Sign Language (BSL) Charter”.

68.10 Having listened to Ayesha's submission it was welcomed and its contents noted by the Committee.

68.11 **RESOLVED** - That the contents the deputation be received and noted.

Buzzfeed News Article - Gender Identity Pronouns Campaign

68.12 Dr Samuel Hall was invited to speak to his Deputation the contents of which are set out below:

68.13 "Beginning with the trans scrutiny 2013, followed by a needs assessment published in 2015, BHCC has a track record of listening to and advocating for trans rights. There is a history of political and municipal support ranging from public health funding to the facilitation of the now well established annual trans pride event.

A sub group maintaining continuity of this early adoption of advocacy for trans and non-binary inclusion has established an annual conference in partnership with the university of Brighton and has initiated the imminent pronoun badge campaign. Individuals and organizations are encouraged to raise the profile of trans and non-binary identities by participating in this initiative designed to coincide with trans day of visibility on 31st March. This is an exemplary campaign highlighting the inclusion of a minority community and which has already enjoyed some very positive press coverage. In reality it is not only trans and non-binary people who benefit from the discourse around gender. We all do. The artificial barrier created by gender is both oppressive and toxic, anything that challenges and opposes enforced gender roles and expectations is progressive for modern society. Advocating for trans rights is a risky business with detractors and naysayers quick to criticize, but this council's track record and reputation with the local trans and non-binary community and beyond is important. We stand on the right side of history and it is being noted both at home and abroad. Moving forward B&H has an opportunity to pioneer a ground-breaking reconfiguration of health and social care services for trans and non-binary people with NHS England now actively seeking pilot schemes. This is a chance to design and deliver an integrated health and social care model which gives parity of esteem to mental health services alongside physical health, to create future-proof interfaces between a deprived community and service providers, and to model partnership working between the public and voluntary sectors which maximizes community engagement in both design and delivery. We should not be missing this opportunity to build something enviable in terms of joined up care at a local level."

68.14 The Chair welcomed Dr Hall's submission, the contents of which were received and noted by the Committee.

68.15 **RESOLVED** – That the contents of the report be received and noted.

Issues New Road, Brighton

68.16 Mr Lyndon Brooker was invited to speak in support of his Deputation the contents of which are set out below:

“My partner and I both reside and work on New Road, and have done so for the past three years. We regularly encounter issues that we feel require more attention from the council. These include regular acts of anti-social behaviour from people drinking alcohol on the street, large late night gatherings of revellers, with all that entails, and daily problems with amplified buskers and music at all hours. Aside from the personal distress and disruption this causes to our daily lives, and business, it also leads to visible incidents of violence, drug-taking, graffiti, littering, and poses a risk to traffic and pedestrians. We have logged well over 500 calls to the police over the past 36 months. Whilst the Police are working with us to tackle some of these issues, they have neither the resources nor the powers in some instances to effectively address them.

In an ideal world, and having had numerous conversations with the Police, residents and businesses of New Road, as well as staff and security at the Royal Pavilion and its gardens, and the Theatre Royal Brighton, we plan to petition for the removal of the benches that seem to be the source of all of these issues. In the meantime we would like the council to consider:

- Up-to-date signage for busking and street drinking and clearer road signs. There is currently no signage regarding busking laws. And signs regarding alcohol consumption are inadequate and out of date legally.
- Action from Environmental Health to enforce council bylaws (busking), particularly at weekends and late at night.
 - Since the large majority of late night revellers seem to be mostly foreign (predominantly Spanish) visitors, we would ask the council contact local language schools, asking them to deter their students from congregating on New Road late at night.
 - Work with relevant agencies and the Police to engage with the individuals presenting persistent antisocial behaviour.”

68.17 The Chair gave the following response:

“The Council is currently agreeing wording for new Public Space Protection Order alcohol restriction signage. The signs will be ordered and updated in the near future. The Community Safety team will keep in touch with you to keep you up to date on the progress of this. Police do have the authority to remove alcohol under dispersal powers contained within the Anti -Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014 without the need for signage. We currently have no signage relating to busking anywhere in the City but officers will consider whether it would be appropriate to introduce this taking into account the issues you are experiencing and whether budgets and resources would allow it. I understand that some of your neighbours have been supported by Council Officers to develop an A board which they display outside of their premises reminding buskers of the ‘one hour, no drums no amps’ rule and officers would be happy to support you to do something similar.

Environmental Health Officers will respond to complaints about buskers during office hours if they have resources to do so and if they occur at weekends the Council’s noise patrol service can respond on Fridays and Saturdays between 10pm and 3am. However officers will not approach where there is a risk to their personal safety for example where they are surrounded by groups of intoxicated people at night without Police owing to the risk of conflict. Over the summer we will be recruiting to some new roles within

the Council introducing field officers who will work seven days a week up until eight o'clock in the evening and we will ensure that they are aware of the issues you have outlined and move buskers on when they are witnessed in contravention of the bye laws. The Council will consider contacting language schools and ask them to remind their students to be mindful of their behaviour.

The Council is already working with partners across the City to deal with issues around persistent anti-social behaviour. There is a regular street community partnership meeting with partner agencies such as Sussex Police, Equinox and St. Mungo's that identifies individuals and geographical areas where behaviour is causing the most harm to members of the public and puts in place multi-agency plans to address these, with consideration given to both support and enforcement interventions. The partnership tactical tasking and co-ordination group consisting of police, Council departments and third sector organisations, has adopted Street Community issues as a priority, and New Road has been among the geographical priority areas targeted on a multi-agency basis for the last several weeks. Issues of anti-social behaviour can be reported to the Council's casework team on 01273 292735, and where individuals can be identified who are engaged in repeated anti-social behaviour, the Casework Team will work with partner agencies to address this behaviour. This has already happened in relation to a number of individuals identified on New Road."

68.18 Whilst noting the response and action being taken Councillor West was of the view that some of the actions suggested by Mr Brooker were worthy of further investigation, and should form the subject of a further report to Committee. A number of other Members were in agreement and following a vote it was agreed that a report would be brought back to Committee as soon as it was practicable to do so, October 2018 was anticipated.

68.19 **RESOLVED** – That a report detailing measures which could be used to ameliorate existing nuisance in New Road be brought back to Committee as soon as it was practicable to do so.

Needs of the Deaf Community

68.20 Ayesha Denny presented a further Deputation setting out the needs of the deaf community in Brighton and Hove particularly in terms of listening to them and providing opportunities for them to communicate their views.

68.21 The Chair and Members of the Committee stated that they had welcomed Ayesha's input and thanked her for attending in order to represent the views of the deaf community. The Chair commended her contribution as an articulate young woman.

68.22 **RESOLVED** – That the contents of the Deputation be received and noted.

69 MEMBER INVOLVEMENT

69a Petitions

69.1 There were none.

69b Written Questions

69.2 There were none.

69c Letters

69.3 There were none.

69d Notices of Motion

69.4 There were none.

70 PROGRESS UPDATE ON BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE CHARTER

70.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities and Housing which provided an update on progress made following the Committees' agreement in March 2017 to sign the British Deaf Association's British Sign Language Charter. It was noted that the Committees' decision had been taken following feedback received from Deaf and British Sign Language (BSL) user communities in the city in response to the work carried out by the Fairness Commission in 2016. The Commission's recommendations had included a recommendation that:

"The access and rights for Deaf people who use British Sign Language, the council should sign up to the British Deaf Association's (BDA) Charter for British Sign Language and implement the five pledges set out within it."

70.2 It was on the basis of those recommendations that agreement to sign the BDA's British Sign Language (BSL) Charter had been made. This report provided an update covering work undertaken over the last twelve months.

70.3 It was explained in answer to questions, that The BSL Charter had been designed as a vehicle to remove direct and indirect discrimination, empower local D/deaf communities and to resolve conflicts between service providers and D/deaf people. The Charter comprised several phases and comprised five pledges although the council had initially undertaken to sign up to three of them within the first stage of the project. The remaining two pledges which were: to ensure access for D/deaf people to information and services and to ensure that staff working with D/deaf people could communicate effectively in BSL, had been included in phase 1 engagement work and progress had been made in those areas.

70.4 The Council had officially signed the BSL Charter on 10 June 2017 at Hamilton Lodge School during their community fete. Ayesha Denny who had signed on behalf of the D/deaf community had already presented her Deputation on this subject and the Chair, Councillor Daniel commended her valuable contribution.

70.5 Councillor West commended the report and gave his own perspective based on his own experiences as a hearing aid wearer. He referred to the difficulties experienced by those who were deaf or had hearing loss notwithstanding the availability of hearing loops in Council buildings and the need for meetings and equipment to be used in such manner that it facilitated involvement by those from the deaf community. For instance the

volume and pitch of the microphones in use that day which was such that I could still be difficult for those present to understand/engage fully with what was going on and the need to use a variety of means of communication. If there was the ability to provide a remote transcription service in relation to meetings he considered that would be useful and that, that was worthy of further investigation.

70.7 The Committee commended the report and voted unanimously that the recommendations set out in it be agreed.

70.8 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the Committee note the progress that has taken place against the pledges contained within the BSL Charter during phase 1 of the project.

(2) That the Committee approve the action plan (appendix 1) which has been drawn up from feedback received during phase 1 engagement with local D/deaf communities; and

(3) That the Committee instructs officers to bring a further progress report, on the delivery of the action plan.

71 OXFORD COURT PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER CONSULTATION SUMMARY

71.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing the purpose of which was to feedback to Committee on the statutory consultation which had been carried out regarding the proposed Oxford Court Public Space Protection Order, and to recommend action based upon that.

71.2 The Committee agreed to the recommendations set out in the report without discussion.

71.3 **RESOLVED** - That the committee grant the proposed Oxford Court Public Space Protection Order (as set out in appendix 1) to the report.

72 ST JAMES COURT PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER

72.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing the purpose of which was to describe concerns around criminal and antisocial behaviour taking place in and around the alleyway at the southern end of George Street Brighton, and to consider the value of a Public Space Protection Order authorising a gating scheme partially closing the alley to general access as a remedy for those concern. It was noted that the site plan was set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

72.2 It was explained that local residents including those representing the St James' Community Action Group representing people living/and or working around St James' Court had raised concerns regarding the incidence of crime and anti-social behaviour in the vicinity, particularly around the southern most entrance outside residential properties. Issues raised had included reported drug dealing and public drug use, persons publicly injecting and overdosing, street fouling, disorderly and intimidating behaviour. The clear view of those living/working in the area was that significant problems were caused by the presence of the alleyway.

72.3 In answer to questions it was explained that alternative interventions, aside from access restriction had been considered, but because of the nature of the activities taking place and the role that the alleyway played in them no other alternative had been identified which would successfully resolve matters on a sustained basis. The nature of the activities reported was considered to be detrimental to public safety and to impact upon those living and operating businesses in the area and this impact was such that it was felt to justify the access restrictions which would be imposed by this proposed order.

72.3 The Committee commended the report and the action proposed.

72.4 **RESOLVED** – That the Committee give approval for a statutory public consultation on the draft St James' Court Public Space Protection Order as set out in appendix 1 to the report.

73 REVIEW OF PARKS AND OPEN SPACES PUBLIC PLACES PROTECTION ORDER

73.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing, the purpose of which was to consider the effectiveness of the Parks and Open Spaces Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) which had been implemented in April 2017 under section 59 of the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014. The report documented the proactive approach taken by the council in monitoring the Parks and Open Spaces PSPO which would be in place until January 2020.

73.2 It was noted that PSPO's were intended to be used to deal with a particular nuisance or problem in an area that was detrimental to the local communities quality of life by imposing conditions on the use of an area which applied to everyone and were designed to ensure people could use and enjoy public spaces safe from anti-social behaviour and the order had been drawn up covering the areas identified in the report where there had been substantial evidence of anti-social behaviour.

73.3 Councillors Meadows and Moonan welcomed this initiative and sought further confirmation regarding the approach used to address issues which arose as a result of an increasing number of people occupying tents rather than sleeping rough and whether there was an evidence to suggest that that the PSPO had resulted in displacement. It was explained that as a result of joint working between the police and council officers' people had received appropriate support to enable them to move on from areas where anti-social behaviour had been reported. Where possible, individuals had been placed in accommodation or reconnected to support areas outside of the city in instances where they had no local connection. Whilst there had been concerns that displacement would occur this did not appear to have been the case.

73.4 In answer to further questions from Councillor West it was confirmed that in relation to PSPO sites and unauthorised encampments, officers had carried out welfare checks and advised those there that a PSPO was in place. In instances where people were in breach and had not moved on warning letters had been issued and in the majority of cases, combined with the option of moving on to a transit site where appropriate had enabled unauthorised encampments to be moved where no other welfare issues were involved.

73.5 Members commended the report and the work that had been undertaken.

73.6 **RESOLVED** – That the Committee notes the review undertaken in relation to the impact and enforcement of the Parks and Open Spaces PSPO as set out in the report.

74 UPDATE ON POVERTY PROOFING THE SCHOOL DAY

74.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director for Families, Children and Learning which provided an update on progress on the agreement given to address the Fairness Commissions recommendation that: “The Council, working with city schools, should bring to Brighton and Hove the “Poverty Proofing the School Day” initiative to ensure no child missed out on the opportunities and experiences at school in consequence of low family income.”

74.2 The Senior Adviser Education Partnerships, Hilary Ferries, introduced the report and set the national context for this work also referring to the work carried out by Child Poverty Action Group in outlining the impact of poverty on outcomes for children and young people and in particular for education. In Brighton and Hove diminishing the gap between the outcomes for pupils in disadvantage and their peers had been identified as a key priority. As a result of the Fairness Commission recommendation agreement had been given to a “Poverty Proofing the School Day” process funded for a two year period.

74.3 It was noted that the “Poverty Proofing the School Day” audit was intended to seek to ensure that the voices of children and young people in school were heard and that opportunities were provided for other stakeholders to participate. Reports on the audit gave schools feedback on their systems enabling the leadership teams within individual schools to reflect on those findings, to celebrate successes and to see if there were any changes they could make to remove barriers for families that were struggling financially. A group of researchers, staff from schools across the city and a team from the Local Authority had been trained to lead and to carry out the audits.

74.4 At the end of the audit process which included a parent/carer questionnaire, a governor questionnaire and a staff questionnaire, responses to the questions were analysed and a report written. The lead researcher went back to the school to discuss the report and any next steps as appropriate. The number of research days was determined by the size of the school. Pilot schools had helped to review and refine the process and details were provided of the schools which had taken part to date.

74.5 The Chair, Councillor Daniel, welcomed the work which had been undertaken to date and referred to the emerging areas for consideration which had been identified. In relation to school trips it appeared that the approach adopted differed greatly between schools and she considered that it was important that parents and schools were made aware of Trust Funds and other funding sources that were available to assist with funding school trips, whilst acknowledging that the range of strategies currently in place generally worked well.

74.6 Councillor Daniel stated that she considered based on her own experience that schools needed to adopt a far more sympathetic approach to school uniform. For those families with limited money at their disposal it was an unnecessary additional burden to purchase school uniform which displayed the school logo, rather than an identical plain

item in the same colour which could be purchased from supermarkets for example at a fraction of the cost. These issues needed to be addressed and it was hoped that details of how this and the other issues identified were being carried forward could be included in the follow up report to Committee.

74.7 **RESOLVED** – (1) That the Committee notes the progress of introducing “Poverty Proofing the School Day” to all schools in the city; and

(2) That the Committee instructs officers to bring a further report of the progress of the project back to Committee in 12 months.

75 VIOLENCE, VULNERABILITY AND EXTREMISM

75.1 The Committee considered a report of the Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing the purpose of which was to brief the Committee on the threat in relation to child criminal exploitation and gang activity related to county lines, a police term used to describe how gangs from metropolitan areas were now operating elsewhere in the country. The report also outlined the strategy being adopted by the Community Safety Partnership to disrupt activity and to support people in exiting their involvement as victims and perpetrators.

75.2 Councillor Simson referred to the sum of £156,000 which had been allocated in the 2018/19 council budget which would be used to fund a co-ordinator and to fund support to help people out of involvement with organised crime networks and which would include third sector support. Councillor Simson sought confirmation regarding how this would be achieved. The Head of Safer Communities, Jo Player, explained that work was being undertaken in concert with the Head of Children’s Safeguarding currently and advice was being sought from specialist agencies regarding the most appropriate means of delivery. The Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing, Larissa Reed confirmed that discussions were on-going. Councillor Simson stated that it would be helpful if Members could be provided with a detailed breakdown of how this sum would be used when the arrangements put into place had been finalised.

75.3 It was noted in answer to questions, that the Community Safety Partnership had developed and was refining a flexible violence, vulnerability and exploitation strategy which would seek to prevent vulnerable people being drawn into organised crime relating to drugs and criminal exploitation by working with third sector youth service providers in order to develop safe exit strategies and pathways for young people who had become involved as victims or perpetrators. A copy of the Strategy was attached as Appendix 1 to the report. The Action Plan which would support the strategy was being developed at present and would become more detailed as it progressed.

75.4 Anusree Biswas Sasidharan, MBE Police Engagement Group, stated that in her view it was important that additional powers were embedded into the strategy in order to ensure that robust safeguarding measures ensured that young people whether victims or perpetrators were completely protected. Anusree stated that she was concerned that there had been no mention of the Modern Slavery Act considering that it was important to consider the way that Modern Slavery legislation could be used particularly in work around county lines. The Modern Slavery Act had been used successfully earlier in the

year in London in a county lines case. It was essential that good links were set up with partner agencies to explore those options fully.

- 75.5 Chief Superintendent Lisa Bell who was in attendance representing Sussex Police confirmed that the Police and all relevant agencies were working together pro-actively to address this and were investigating strategies used elsewhere across the country to assess what could be usefully replicated across the city and its wider environs, 9 separate strands of work had been identified which needed to feed into the process overall. Public Protection issues were paramount and it was acknowledged that input by those with who had specialist knowledge and experience was often key.
- 75.6 Councillor West stated that he understood that mobile phones in use in this country were available from which calls could be made but not traced although he understood that exchanges made via social media were traceable. Available technology and how that could be utilised was an area which needed to be explored further. He considered that it was important to bring pressure to bear on Central Government to ensure that this issue continued to be given a sufficiently high profile and was kept under constant review. Councillor West stated that in his view this should be the subject of a Notice of Motion. The Chair noted that stating that it was understood that following work undertaken by Parliament, and feedback by the LGA and from London boroughs that guidance would be forthcoming from the Home Office in the near future.
- 76.7 Councillor Peltzer Dunn referred to the co-ordinator role enquiring as to the timing of appointment to that post and whether it was envisaged that there could be “slippage” given that the job description and other details remained to be finalised. The Executive Director, Neighbourhoods, Communities and Housing, Larissa Reed stated that officers were confident that would not occur.
- 75.8 A vote was taken and the Committee voted unanimously that the recommendations set out in the report be agreed and forwarded to Full Council for approval.
- 75.9 **RESOLVED – (1)** That the Committee notes the Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation strategy developed by the Community Safety Partnership; and

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND - (2) That the Committee recommends to Full Council that the Council’s Community Safety Strategy is updated to incorporate the Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation Strategy (attached as Appendix 1 to the report).

76 ITEMS REFERRED FOR FULL COUNCIL

- 76.1 It was noted that Item 75, Violence, Vulnerability and Extremism” required approval by Full Council.

The meeting concluded at 8.00pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

Subject: Written Questions
Date of Meeting: 2 July 2018
Report of: Executive Lead, Strategy, Governance and Law
Contact Officer: Name: Penny Jennings Tel: 29-1065
E-mail: penny.jennings@brighton-hove.gov.uk
Wards Affected: All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

1.1 To receive any written questions submitted directly to Democratic Services or submitted via the council's website.

2.

3. (i) Letter from Friends, Families and Travellers relating to PSPO's

Letter received from Mr David Thomas of Friends, Families and Travellers (FFT):

"On 21 January 2018 FFT wrote to the Chief Executive, pointing out that the Statutory Guidance on the use of PSPOs had changed to make it absolutely clear that they should not be used to target homeless people, setting out the way that the Brighton & Hove Park and Open Spaces PSPO breached the new Guidance and Equalities Act, and demanding that the PSPO be withdrawn. The recent council report (16/03/18) on its operation makes clear that the PSPO is used only to target homeless people and travellers. What changes is the council proposing to make to its operation?"

Mr Thomas will be called forward to ask his question and will have the opportunity to ask one supplementary question.

Subject:	Universal Credit update
Date of Meeting:	Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities and Equalities Committee
Report of:	Executive Director Finance & Resources
Contact Officer: Name:	John Francis
Email:	John.Francis@Brighton-Hove.gcsx.gov.uk
Ward(s) affected:	All

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the rollout of Universal Credit (UC) in Brighton & Hove, and further intelligence on the impact of other associated welfare reforms.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Committee notes the latest information regarding the implementation of UC in the city.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Background

- 3.1 Universal Credit Full Service was rolled out across Brighton & Hove between October 2017 and January 2018. It is payable to working age people, and excludes those of pensionable age.
- 3.2 According to figures published on the Universal Credit Official Statistics website on 12 June 2018, there are now 920,000 live claims for UC nationally. In Brighton and Hove, as of 10 May 2018, there were 5,564 households in receipt of UC. Of these, 1,266 were previously in receipt of Housing Benefit and have had their Housing Benefit claim ended as a result of the claim for UC. The other claims are from people who have made new claims or did not previously claim Housing Benefit. The council estimates around 20,000 households in the city will eventually move onto UC.
- 3.3 At present the rollout only affects households who 'naturally' move on to UC. This occurs when one or more of a number of changes of circumstances take place, or a person makes a new claim for benefits. The Government's intention is to move remaining households onto UC between 2019 and 2023. No further details have been confirmed about this process but it is expected that claimants will be asked to make new claims rather than go through a process of automatic transition.

Risks presented by Universal Credit

3.4 A report to this committee on 3 July 2017 set out what the council considered to be the key risks presented by the introduction of UC. The headline risks were:

- Financial – largely driven by the default position of the rent being paid directly to the claimant rather than the landlord, and single large monthly payments, paid 5 weeks after making the claim
- Housing risk – concerns have been expressed by landlords about their willingness to take tenants on UC
- Structural risks within UC around how some of the rules work in practice
- Administration of UC - a single payment is more sensitive to administrative delays and mistakes than the multiple payments of the previous benefits system
- Vulnerable people - the requirement for people to apply and maintain their claim online, manage monthly payments and to pay their own rent may present particular risks for vulnerable people

Paragraphs 3.9 – 3.45 below set out the degree to which these risks have become evident.

Changes to Universal Credit

3.5 Since the last report to this committee about UC the government has made a number of changes to the way the scheme operates:

- Advance payments (loans made at the beginning of a claim) are now available for up to 100% of the value of a month's payment (rather than 50%), from January 2018
- The one week wait during which no benefit was payable at the beginning of a UC claim has been removed, from 11 February 2018
- Housing costs for temporary accommodation have been removed from UC and are now payable via Housing Benefit again, from 11 April 2018
- For people who are on Housing Benefit when they claim UC a two week overlapping payment of Housing Benefit is made, from 11 April
- A restriction of social sector rents based on Local Housing Allowance amounts will no longer happen (was due April 2019)
- Housing support restrictions for people under the age of 22 will be scrapped as soon as possible.

3.6 Further changes were announced on 7 June 2018, although the legislation to enact them will not be brought to parliament until Autumn 2018:

- Claimants who currently qualify for the Severe Disability Premium will no longer trigger for a move to UC following a change of circumstances, meaning that they will retain a higher amount of income. Those that have already been moved over will receive transitional protection. Cases will be moved over later as part of the longer term migration

- Childcare costs will no longer erode transitional protection for those who have moved to UC
- Short term, temporary increases in earnings will no longer end transitional protection
- For former Tax Credits customers only, capital of up to £16,000 will be ignored for the purposes of calculating UC, for up to 12 months
- The migration timetable has been extended by a year to 2023

3.7 In June the National Audit Office published a report on the implementation of Universal Credit: <https://www.nao.org.uk/report/rolling-out-universal-credit/>

3.8 Its conclusions are as follows:

“We think that there is no practical alternative to continuing with Universal Credit. We recognise the determination and single-mindedness with which the Department has driven the programme forward to date, through many problems. However, throughout the introduction of Universal Credit local and national organisations that represent and support claimants have raised a number of issues about the way Universal Credit works in practice. The Department has responded to simple ideas to improve the digital system but defended itself from those that it viewed as being opposed to the policy in principle. It does not accept that Universal Credit has caused hardship among claimants, because it makes advances available, and believes that if claimants take up these opportunities hardship should not occur. This has led it to often dismiss evidence of claimants’ difficulties and hardship instead of working with these bodies to establish an evidence base for what is actually happening. The result has been a dialogue of claim and counter-claim and gives the unhelpful impression of a Department that is unsympathetic to claimants.

The Department has now got a better grip of the programme in many areas. However, we cannot judge the value for money on the current state of programme management alone. Both we, and the Department, doubt it will ever be possible for the Department to measure whether the economic goal of increasing employment has been achieved. This, the extended timescales and the cost of running Universal Credit compared to the benefits it replaces cause us to conclude that the project is not value for money now, and that its future value for money is unproven.”

Rolling Out Universal Credit, National Audit Office

Approach to managing Universal Credit

3.9 The Council has taken a cross-service approach to managing the impact of UC. A report presented to this committee on 9 October 2017 set this out and detailed the actions taken by different services forming a part of this approach. The key mitigations against the risks were set out as:

- The provision of emergency financial support and advice. Paragraph 3.34 shows how we have utilised our discretionary funds to support people with

emergency needs, or to help with their rent – including people on Universal Credit

- Extra funding for the third sector in the form of £288k permanent budget provision against Community Grants.
 - Support for people to make claims online and to manage monthly budgets and rent. 93 Personal Budgeting sessions and 65 Assisted Digital sessions were held between Jan 18 and Mar 18 under Universal Support, provided by Moneyworks, commissioned by the council and funded by DWP
 - Information and training – 41 training sessions covering 400 people have been provided by the Welfare Rights team
 - Support for vulnerable groups of people – support staff in housing, supported accommodation and mental health services have received training on Universal Credit
 - Understanding the impact across the city – 8 meetings bringing together a cross section of stakeholders in the city were held during 2017/18 to discuss and prepare for the introduction of UC.
 - Taking a joined-up view of debt recovery from UC - teams have met to coordinate on this issue. However there are currently significant issues relating to debt recovery from UC compared to the processes under legacy benefits
 - Focused and proactive risk management – there has been a programme of work in place to track and drive these actions, which includes maintaining a risk log.
- 3.10 These actions were overseen by a project group, and have now been delivered. Ongoing issues are now being monitored by a front-line staff group. A separate meeting of Heads of Service manages the strategic risks which will be escalated to Corporate Modernisation Board as appropriate. The council continues to meet with stakeholders from across the city including advice agencies, voluntary and community organisations, social and private landlords, and the local Jobcentre Plus via regular city group meetings.

Impact of Universal Credit on the council

- 3.11 A representative of the community and voluntary sector is presenting to this meeting separately on the impacts of UC on their sector. As such this report will focus on the impact to the council.
- 3.12 Due to the gradual and developing rollout of UC, the full national impact is not yet known. According to the latest statistics on gov.uk, the national employment rate for Feb-Apr 2018 is 75.6%, compared to 74.8% for Feb-Apr 2017. However, the Trussel Trust reports that from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018, there were indications of increased debt problems around housing and utility bills nationally, leading to increased use of food banks. In areas where UC full service has been rolled out for 12 months, demand for food banks has increased by 52%.
- 3.13 Whilst a significant programme of work has been undertaken within the council to prepare for UC the changes presented by its introduction and the scale of those changes mean council services and relevant stakeholders are dealing with a

paradigm shift in the way that citizens on low incomes are supported. A selection of individual case studies are included in Appendix 1.

3.14 Overall it is clear that the change to UC is creating resource pressures for council services. It is arguable that this is inevitable during any process of change of this scale. However the rules and delivery structures around UC (which vary significantly from the legacy benefits system) may mean these pressures are in fact not transitional but ongoing.

3.15 The material complexities relate to:

- the default position of the rent being paid to the tenant
- the lack of access to decision-making staff within the DWP
- the limitations in place around consent for third parties to communicate with the DWP on behalf of claimants. This position will continue to clarify as the rollout of UC continues

3.16 The clearest financial risk to the council around the introduction of UC was the potential impact on rent collection for both Housing Rent Account and temporary accommodation properties. The rent arrears relating to Universal Credit for Housing Rent Account properties is shown in the table below:

	Households	% in arrears	Average arrears	Total	Collected
Universal Credit	498	68%	£473	£156.k	93.00%
Benefit cap	47	53%	£204	£5k	97.71%
Under-occupiers	580	39%	£195	£41k	98.44%
Not affected	10,297	17%	£256	£450k	98.95%
All tenants	11,396	23%	£279	£651k	98.66%

Data: Sustainable Tenancies Programme report (January – March 2018)

3.17 The council has taken a number of steps to support tenants and protect rental income. When the council is aware that a tenant is claiming UC they are contacted by the Income Management Team within two working days. Officers go through a checklist with the tenant to ensure that all their support needs are met. Where needed, referrals are then made for the appropriate support and a personally tailored rent repayment plan is made.

3.18 It is too early to provide meaningful figures for arrears enforcement action such as the serving of notices and evictions, which take place over a timescale of several months. However, the council is strongly committed to taking action only as a last resort for tenants who do not engage or accept the support that is offered to them.

3.19 Tenants in arrears are always offered a payment plan which is tailored to the individual to make sure they are able to repay their debt over a realistic time period. If there are more than 8 weeks of arrears, or the tenant is vulnerable the council will request (via our DWP 'Trusted Landlord' status) that the DWP make Alternative Payment Arrangements direct to the council. This is explained more fully in 3.42.

- 3.20 Although all major systemic changes affecting council tenants will create additional work for housing staff, the nature of UC is likely to require additional resources to manage income and support tenants well into the future. Improvements to training and IT infrastructure are underway to help staff work more effectively in the UC environment. Housing is also developing innovative solutions, such as online learning to prepare people for their tenancies while they are on the waiting list.
- 3.21 The Housing Employment Support Team reports several issues relating to the administration of UC where they need to intervene. These include inconsistent advice from the UC service centre (DWP-led); evidence which has been submitted to the DWP going missing and claims being closed or payment suspended as a result; ongoing issues about consent; and overall issues with support and access to the Universal Credit service for people whose first language is not English, for vulnerable claimants, particularly for those clients who can present with challenging behaviours relating to their disability, and those who do not have the skills or access to make claims online.
- 3.22 The Credit Control team who are responsible for managing and collecting rents from occupiers in temporary accommodation report that arrears for tenants on UC stood at £434k in April. This figure has been increasing but the *rate* of increase is reducing and the amount is expected to plateau and then start to fall. This is due to the government moving temporary accommodation back from UC to Housing Benefit, and the resultant impact on administration. In the meantime, Credit Control's management of UC cases is complicated by questions around the rent element, whether it will be paid to tenant, landlord or if it has been paid at all. It is also increasingly difficult to support tenants who are on UC who will not engage with the Credit Control team due to lack of access to details of the tenants' UC claim without their explicit permission.
- 3.23 Housing Options are responding to UC as part of their government-funded trailblazer work. The trailblazer is focussing overall on early intervention work to prevent future homelessness. However, officers report that Universal Credit is an increasingly frequent causal factor in both homelessness, and risk of homelessness. In the first year of the project, collaborative working is helping to shape a joint response with the Jobcentre Plus.
- 3.24 There is now a full time member of housing staff located in the Jobcentre and training has been provided to Jobcentre plus staff on housing issues. The intention is that vulnerably housed people can be identified and referred to the appropriate support including directly to the homelessness prevention officer within the Jobcentre. On the other side of this the Jobcentre Plus work coach is co-located with the Housing Needs service for part of the week to engage with individuals whose housing issues are caused in part by benefit or employment support related issues. Other collaborations are being developed across Adult Social Care, Childrens Services, Public Health, statutory services and the Community and Voluntary Sector.
- 3.25 The second of the two year funded project will see successful working practices embedded into services, whilst also establishing a legacy of early intervention and resilience to homelessness on a strategic level.

- 3.26 The Local Authority has a new duty to report on UC as a factor in homelessness, but data analysis is ongoing and incomplete at this early stage.
- 3.27 The Welfare Rights team has seen a significant jump in the number of cases it is dealing with concerning UC, including queries and referrals from colleagues in the voluntary and advice sector seeking expert help from the team. A lack of a clear escalation route around individual cases within DWP service centres is a key concern. This also means that the Welfare Rights team is unable to address regular issues at a strategic level with appropriate management level staff within DWP service centres. The team also reports an increase of problems experienced by persons from abroad and their access to benefits, in comparison to previous benefit schemes.
- 3.28 The local Jobcentre Plus has launched a local complex needs forum to seek to address issues around vulnerability and has just confirmed that a new national escalation route has been launched. Advice agencies and support services may now escalate by emailing generic manager inboxes at the Hove and Brighton Jobcentres. These queries will then be picked up by a local manager and escalated to the UC processing centre. The new escalation route is as yet untested, but colleagues in the Jobcentre Plus expect the route to be useful both for individual case queries, and for raising cases with a strategic or practical significance for improving UC overall.
- 3.29 Revenues and Benefits have ended 1,150 Housing Benefit (HB) claims as a result of working age people moving to UC. There are still 21,400 live HB claims for pensioners (around 7500) and the remaining working age population (approximately 13,900)).
- 3.30 The introduction of UC has created a number of complex scenarios where guidance to customers is needed as to whether a person should make a HB claim or a UC claim. The service continues to assess claims for Council Tax Reduction (CTR) and discretionary payments for people on UC. These are delivered alongside advice, advocacy and caseworking support for people most significantly impacted. This means that people who approach the council for short term emergency assistance can be referred into longer term support to address the underlying issues they are facing. Revenues and Benefits also provide a digital service twice a week at the Brighton Customer Service Centre, assisting customers to access the service via our self help computers, or via the customers' own smartphones and tablets. In May 2018, 27 customers (5.2%) sought assistance with making UC claims during these sessions.
- 3.31 The administration of CTR has become more complex as more people move to UC. When there is a change to their UC, the council is notified and Revenues and Benefits teams then have to recalculate the amount of CTR the person is due. This results in a new Council Tax bill showing how much Council Tax remains to be paid. There are high numbers of changes and adjustments month by month to individuals' UC, and so this has a knock on effect, creating a high volume of CTR changes to administer. Policy and software solutions to this issue are currently being explored.

- 3.32 Recovery of Housing Benefit overpayments and Council Tax arrears from ongoing UC claims is significantly more difficult and complex to achieve at present than it was under legacy benefits.
- 3.33 A Jobcentre Plus work coach is co-located within Revenues and Benefits for part of the week to try to make the interaction between services as seamless as possible for customers. Work with the JCP to try to ensure that UC claimants also claim CTR is ongoing.
- 3.34 Budgets and expenditure of discretionary budgets for this year and the previous three years are set out below.

	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
	Budget/Expenditure	Budget/Expenditure	Budget/Expenditure	Budget
Discretionary Housing Payment (DHP)	£611k / £630k (103% utilised)	£776k / £776K (100% utilised)	£1,133k / £1,11k (expenditure inc. £38k HRA reserve) 103%	£837k*
Discretionary Council Tax Reduction	£150k / £99k (66% utilised)	£150k / £134k (89% utilised)	£150k / £139k 93%	£150k
Local Discretionary Social Fund	£180k / £129k (72% utilised)	£180k / £164k (91% utilised)	£180k / £182k 101%	£180k

*This sum reflects the DWP funding allocation, which has reduced to reflect the anticipated reduction of caseload due to the ongoing transfer of cases to UC. The Discretionary Housing Payment budget can award up to a maximum of 2.5 times the DWP allocation (£2,092k in 2018/19). The additional funding of £1,255k would need to be met from council budgets.

- 3.35 The Family Information Service (FIS), part of the Front Door for Families, has seen a steady increase in cases where families are struggling under UC. Many of these families are already supported by social services, and face a range of complex and challenging issues that are compounded when they have issues with their benefits. The main emerging themes are:
- Families who are being moved onto UC and are left in financial hardship whilst their new payments are being set up.
 - Families and persons from abroad who were claiming legacy benefits, who do not meet the habitual residency conditions for Universal Credit and therefore are without living costs.
 - Families who have failed their assessment for Employment & Support Allowance (ESA). They are being told they have to make an application for UC

and are not given the option to appeal the ESA decision, which may have been more beneficial for them financially in the long term.

- 3.36 The FIS is offering advice and support to these families by helping them to navigate the system and referring onto other sources of help, such as food banks and Voices in Exile. The team has experienced conflicting advice depending on who they speak to at the DWP, and the main source of expertise for queries regarding UC is the council's Welfare Rights Team.
- 3.37 The Adult Social Care team responsible for commissioning supported housing for vulnerable clients report that there have been a number of issues relating to difficulties with UC. However these are relatively low in number and most clients remain on legacy benefits because this client group is less likely than some others to have a change of circumstances. It is clear that at the migration phase, when all current older style benefit claims are moved to UC, this may become more of a significant issue. Jobcentre Plus have engaged with staff from the council in trying to set up processes to resolve these issues for very vulnerable people and these efforts are continuing.
- 3.38 Adult Social Care also supports individuals with no recourse to public funds who also meet social care thresholds. The introduction of UC has created pressure in this area. The criteria for entitlement to UC for European Union nationals are tighter than for previous benefits and new decisions about entitlement based on migration status are being made with each new UC claim. This is resulting in an increase in the number of people being turned down for UC then requiring assistance whilst the appeals processes takes place; this can take a number of months. The team is currently providing financial assistance to a small number of households such as these. Most have multiple layers of complication. The team does not have direct access to decision-makers within the DWP which would have been the case when staff were liaising with colleagues in the Housing Benefit team
- 3.39 **New actions to mitigate impacts and other measures**
- 3.40 In addition to the actions referred to in 3.9, a number of other initiatives have been put in place around preparation for UC.
- 3.41 A key risk identified around the rollout of UC was the separation between the provision of financial housing support via Housing Benefit provided by the council, and Housing and Homelessness services also provided by the Council. These two services were located in direct proximity with one another and as such households identified by Housing Benefit staff at being at risk of homelessness could be immediately referred to Homelessness Prevention services. In turn households who presented at risk of homelessness due to financial and benefit issues could be joint worked by both services. Now that Housing costs are provided via UC, the connection between homelessness prevention and housing costs support is considerably more distant, which presents potential barriers around successful joint working on these issues. The Housing Options team is working with the Jobcentre to mitigating this risk via the Trailblazer initiative, by co-locating staff between the Jobcentre and the council (see para 3.xx above).

3.42 Brighton & Hove City Council is now recognised as a ‘trusted partner’ by the DWP, i.e. the council as a social landlords is trusted to provide information directly about a tenant’s circumstances) This means that details relating to UC claimants who are also tenants of the council are now communicated to the DWP via a dedicated landlord portal which significantly simplifies the process of verifying rent evidence and detailing when payments of rent are due to be made. Importantly this also means that the council can apply to have the rental element paid directly in cases where the tenant is vulnerable or in arrears, and that in most cases this decision will be accepted due to the trusted partner status.

3.43 **Other emerging risks**

3.44 The issue of self-employed claimants on UC was raised at the Audit & Standards Committee on 27 March 2018. The treatment of people with self-employed earnings in UC is complex. One of the key rules is that once a person has been self-employed for a year then there is a minimum level of income they are treated as receiving (based on working a number of hours at minimum wage) even if they are not actually earning this amount, and the level of their UC entitlement is reduced accordingly. This is referred to as the Minimum Income Floor. A number of support services have reported individual cases with claimants facing this issue at present and it could become far more significant due to the fact that there are currently 1,900 households where a self-employed person on a low income is on Housing Benefit. When these cases are migrated to UC it has the potential to create significant pressure in the city.

3.45 There is also an emerging risk from multiple teams around the treatment of persons from abroad and their ability to access benefits under UC entitlement as set out in 3.27, 3.35 and 3.38.

4. **ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

4.1 The council continues to take a cross-service approach to dealing with the introduction of UC. It also continues to work with partners and stakeholders across the city to understand the impact of Welfare Reform.

4.2 An alternative option would be not to respond to these changes. This would mean ad-hoc shifting of resources with a subsequent impact on business as usual and individual variable levels of support being provided rather than a consistent approach.

5. **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION**

5.1 The council is active in engaging with stakeholders relating to welfare benefit issues and works closely with the local Jobcentre Plus, the advice sector and others including landlords from the social and private sector.

6. **CONCLUSION**

6.1 UC is creating significant change in the city and is impacting on council services. This is in part due to the size and scale of the number of people who have been and will be impacted by this change but it is also because of the differing nature of UC compared with the legacy benefits that went before. These changes

include the requirement to claim and maintain UC online, the default position of the rent element of the award to be paid to the tenant and the requirement of claimants to manage single monthly payments. The consequence of this is likely to mean there will be increased demand for services that support citizens on a low income for the foreseeable future.

- 6.2 The council will continue to monitor and manage the introduction of UC and the impact of other welfare reforms by working together across services to forecast risks and to address and escalate issues as they manifest.
- 6.3 The migration phase of UC is likely to carry a significant new range of risks which will need to be assessed once the timings and details of the migration phase have been published.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 7.1 It is estimated that for 2018/19 the council will pay out approximately £43m in rent rebates, most of which is in respect of properties where the council is the landlord. Over the next four years as housing benefit transitions to Universal Credit payment will be made directly to the tenant rather than directly to the council. This could potentially lead to a pressure on rent collection rates in both the HRA and General Fund although at this stage it is very difficult to quantify this. This will be closely monitored and any impact will need to be reflected in future years' budget setting.
- 7.2 The current impact on rental collection has been set out in 3.16 and 3.17. This situation will continue to be monitored.
- 7.3 The 2018/19 budget includes continued recognition of the potential impacts of Universal Credit and national welfare reform changes. As well as a wide range of services including Financial Inclusion, Housing and Welfare Rights, the council also provides one-off resources and grants to support those suffering short term hardship including:
- Discretionary Housing Payments £837k (funded by DWP grant)
 - Social Fund £180k (funded by £400k one-off allocation from reserves)
 - Recurrent discretionary Council Tax Reduction support of £10k in addition to £140k one off funding(part of £400k one-off allocation from reserves)
 - £80k towards the cost of the welfare reform programme and the provision of advice and support to families most affected by these changes (part of £400k one-off allocation from reserves)
 - £100k allocated in the budget to address further potential issues with Universal Credit. The council is currently working with East Sussex Credit Union to provide products that support this approach (funded by a separate one-off allocation of £100k from reserves).

Finance Officer Consulted: Jeff Coates

Date: 18/06/18

Legal Implications:

- 7.4 The actions taken by the council, described in this report, are incidental to the council's powers and responsibilities around administering Housing Benefit, Council Tax Reduction and Local Welfare Provision. The provision of homelessness prevention services is compatible with the duties in the Housing Act 1996, as amended by the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017.

Lawyer Consulted:

Name Liz Woodley

Date: 04/06/18

Equalities Implications:

- 7.5 An Equalities Impact Assessment on UC was published by the government in November 2011. There have been a significant number of calculative changes made to the Universal Credit scheme since then but a revised Equalities Impact Assessment has not been published. The initial impact assessment found that:
- For disabled people levels of entitlement may change depending on the levels of premiums they received on legacy benefits. Some areas of provision for disabled people have been reduced and some have been increased so levels of entitlement will vary compared with previous entitlements.
 - Anyone transferring from legacy benefits during the migration phase will receive transitional protection but this will not include cases which move on to UC via 'natural' migration (that is they make a new claim or have a change of circumstance).
 - Participation Tax rates for disabled people would reduce increasing work incentives.
 - Financial incentives to work for men and women are increased by broadly the same degree.
 - Single women are more likely to see a change in entitlement than single men because single men on UC are more likely to be out of work.
 - Around 16 per cent of the potential UC caseload is from an ethnic background which is a larger proportion than the population as a whole and that people from an ethnic background were more likely to see an increase in entitlement than those who are not.
 - People under 25 are least likely to see a reduction in entitlement and people over 50 most likely to see a reduction in entitlement; this cohort may also need the most support to claim online.

Sustainability Implications:

- 7.6 None

Any Other Significant Implications:

- 7.7 None

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. UC case studies
2. UC examples of entitlement and comparison with legacy benefits

APPENDIX 1 – UNIVERSAL CREDIT CASE STUDIES

The latest DWP figures show there are 5,564 households in receipt of Universal Credit in Brighton & Hove. Council and community and advice services within the city are positioned to support complex and vulnerable clients. Below are a selection of case studies these services have been involved in supporting.

Case study 1 – Changes to residency conditions under Universal Credit

An EU national parent of two children aged three (with a high level of special needs) and four contacted Family Information Service (FIS). The parent had been working for her husband whom she had left because of domestic violence.

Her claim was turned down, because she was deemed to have voluntarily given up her job and had lost the right to benefits under habitual residency rules. All of her benefits were stopped, including Housing Benefit. Her main concern was being made homeless. When she contacted FIS she was appealing this decision in the hope of having her “worker status” re-instated.

FIS referred the parent to a foodbank and advised her about the Homeless Intervention Trailblazer. The parent was signed up to the FIS-managed Providing Access to Childcare and Employment (PACE) project where she was given employment advice and support. The parent subsequently was successful in applying for a full-time job with a local company and the council is continuing to work with her to address her childcare requirements..

Case study 2 – Changes to residency conditions under Universal Credit

This parent was referred to FIS by the Housing Options Team as she was suffering financial hardship. She was moved to emergency accommodation from outside of Brighton & Hove due to domestic violence. This triggered a change in circumstances requiring her to make a claim for Universal Credit. She had been living in UK for 8 years. Because she had come to the UK to study and had split up with her partner, she lost “worker status” when the relationship broke down.

She was working part-time and the Jobcentre Plus advised her that she needed to work a minimum of 25 hours per week. Under legacy benefits, she would only have needed to work 16 hours per week to get Working Tax Credits. Because the parent was not in receipt of eligible benefits, she was not entitled to free childcare for her two year old.

FIS made a foodbank referral and spoke to the Welfare Rights team who advised to make a referral to Voices in Exile as her issues were linked to her “right to reside”

Case study 3 – Barriers when applying for Universal Credit

This was a referral from a Health Visitor to council’s Children’s Services Front Door for Families, which was then allocated to FIS. The client was a single parent, who was on a waiting list for an operation, she was in constant pain and had very limited mobility. Her ESA benefit stopped 18th January 2018 following a Work Capability Assessment which stated that client ‘did not have a limited capability to work’. She was advised to claim Universal Credit.

The client had been unable to make a UC claim because of the barriers she faced:

- No internet at home
- No smart phone
- No IT skills
- No email address
- Unable to get out and about to get internet access
- Unable to make telephone calls, as no credit on mobile phone, or any money to buy top ups
- No landline phone available

FIS made enquiries to see if anyone from the Jobcentre Plus would do a home visit to help her claim UC, but this was refused. FIS were advised that client had managed to get a lift to the Jobcentre with a friend and received support whilst there to make an online claim. The client was advised that she would need to have her documents verified before the claim would be accepted.

After numerous telephone conversations, FIS were able to arrange a home visit to get her documents verified, but the first date available was 1st March 2018.

FIS applied to the Local Discretionary Social Fund, and the client received a £40.00 grocery voucher.

Advance universal credit payment was received a month after the referral was received. The first UC payment was due over two months after the referral.

The client was therefore without any income from when her ESA stopped on 18th January until she received her Universal Credit advance on 5th April.

Universal Credit entitlement examples:

Entitlement levels under UC are different from those on legacy benefits. Anyone who is migrated to UC will receive transitional protection at the point of change so they are no worse off. People who make a new claim or have a change of circumstances which prompt a claim for UC will not receive transitional protection (although very recent measures around the Severe Disability Premium may mean change this for some people).

The below examples assume someone has made a new claim and therefore do not receive transitional protection.

Example 1:

Single claimant moving from full UC to working part time – he is better off

Brian is 26, he lives on his own and he is looking for full-time work, he rents a room in a shared house for £358.19 per month (this is the Local Housing Allowance limit for shared accommodation). Brian hasn't got any income apart from his Universal Credit.

Brian is offered a job for 10 hours per week; his take home pay will be £325.00 per month (£75.00 per week).

Summary:

Legacy Benefits: £371.63 per month

Universal Credit: £471.26 per month

He will be £22.86 per week, £99.07 per month better off under Universal Credit

Example 2:

Couple one caring for their disabled child claiming Carers allowance, partner takes up part time work – better off under legacy system

Nina and Nihal have 2 children aged 7 and 12. They are both out of work at the moment and renting in the private sector for £997.88 per month, which is the local housing allowance rate for a 3 bed property. Their youngest child Tanisha receives the middle rate care DLA because she has cerebral palsy and Nina claims £271.70 per month carers allowance for looking after her.

Summary:

Legacy Benefits per month £1883.01

Universal Credit per month £1739.66

Nina and Nihal were better off on the legacy system by £33.00 per week £143.00 per month.

The disabled child element within Universal Credit is set at £126.11 per month, whereas the comparable rate in child tax credit is £264.58.

Example 3

Single parent on full UC – then takes up work of 16 hours – she is worst off under UC as she is under 24

Adriana is a single parent aged 24, she has a 4 year old and she lives in a housing association flat where she pays £650 per month rent. She starts work for 16 hours per week, her take home pay is £128.00 per week, £554.66 per month.

Summary:

Legacy Benefit: £998.66 per month

Universal Credit: £950.37 per month

Adriana was £11.14 per week, £48.27 per month better off under the legacy system

The government have increased the offer of free childcare from 16 hours to 30 hours from September 2017 for 3 & 4 year olds. If she has to pay for childcare the current tax credit calculation only offsets 70% of the costs. Under UC this is more generous and has been increased to 85% up a maximum

Example 4

Working couple with 2 older children – one of the couple works 30 hours eligible for a 3 bedroom property

Summary:

Legacy Benefits: £321.62 per week

Universal Credit: £339.46 per week

So they are better off under UC by £17.84 per week

Subject:	Community Safety and Crime in Brighton & Hove		
Date of Meeting:	2nd July 2018		
Report of:	Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Communities & Housing		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Jo Player	Tel: 01273 292488
	Email:	jo.player@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk	
Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 Under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, there is a requirement for statutory and other partners to formulate a plan every three years to tackle crime and disorder and monitor progress. This report provides an update on the work undertaken by the Community Safety Partnership (formerly known as the Safe in the City Partnership) in relation to the Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 The committee is invited to note and comment on the information contained in the report which provides an update on work being undertaken by the Community Safety Team in relation to the Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy 2017-20.
- 2.2 The Committee is invited to give its support to the partnership work described in the report and commit to work described which is within the council's remit, thereby contributing to the management of crime and community safety priorities for the city.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Overview of police recorded crime

- 3.1 In 2017/18 there were a total of 26,142 crimes recorded by the police in Brighton & Hove, a 1.4% increase compared with 2016/17. A continuation of a longer term increasing trend in total crime was more clearly evident earlier in the year (eg. there was a 6% increase after six months). While the year still ends with an increase, numbers recorded in the last three months suggest a possible decreasing trend.

- 3.2 Total crime is, broadly speaking, broken down into acquisitive crime¹ (36% of total crime in the three months from Jan – Mar 2018), violent crime (45% of total), criminal damage (10% of total) and other offences (9% of total).
- 3.3 In 2017/18, while recorded crime as a whole has increased slightly, the picture in different crime groups differs. At the end of the performance year, violence against the person crimes, and vehicle crimes have increased by 7% and 3% respectively, while. Criminal damage, robberies and burglaries offences have decreased by 9%. 9% and 10% respectively. Theft offences (excluding vehicle crimes) are showing similar levels to 2016/17, although within this group cycle thefts have increased particularly sharply – up by 27%. Domestic violence and sexual violence have both increased (6% and 18% respectively), while different types of hate crimes are showing different trends. Appendix 1 provides data for key crime types for 2017/18 and how this compares with 2016/17. Longer term trends, with seasonal patterns can be seen in the graphs in Appendix 2.
- 3.4 The upward trend in total crime since 2013/14 follows a long term decline in the preceding years. There was an inspection of all police forces carried out by Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) in 2013/14, to audit the crime recording practices. As a consequence, there were improvements made within forces, including Sussex Police. This has had an impact on some of the types of crime reported here, particularly violence against the person, as well as contributing to the number of total crimes recorded. While there was an immediate effect seen in 2014 the local response to the HMIC audit has been an ongoing process, and has contributed to the ongoing upwards trend in recorded crime.
- 3.5 Domestic violence, sexual violence, and hate crime are among those crime types which are now more accurately recorded resulting in better services and outcomes for victims.

Anti-social behaviour and hate incidents/crimes

- 3.6 The long term declining trend in the number of police recorded ASB incidents continued in 2017/18, with numbers recorded in 2017/18 showing a 7% decrease compared with 2016/17. ‘ASB crimes’² were increasing in number in the three years up to 2016/17, but data for 2017/18 show a similar decrease (down 6%) compared with 2016/17.
- 3.7 In 2017/18 racist, religiously-motivated and transphobic crimes and incidents all show a decrease (down 5%, 15% and 44% respectively), while homophobic and disability-motivated crimes and incidents are both showing an increase (up 3% and 19% respectively). The police solved rate for hate crimes has dropped over the last few years, and in 2017/18 it remains roughly at last year’s level. For those cases reaching court, the prosecution rate for hate crimes overall is 85%.
- 3.8 The local authority has started a piece of work to review how the public and partners can report incidents of anti- social behaviour in a more seamless manor. Victims of ASB, staff and partner agencies have been asked to

¹ eg. burglary or theft

² ‘ASB crimes’ refers to a grouping of police recorded crimes made up of: criminal damage, common assault, harassment, public order and affray

participate in workshops to explore improvements to the service provided by the City Council.

- 3.9 The newly formed Partnership Tactical Tasking and Co-ordination Group agrees and reviews Community Safety Partnership priorities and ensures that resources are appropriately deployed.
- 3.10 The casework team deal with approximately 150 reports of ASB and hate crimes each quarter. Of these the majority are successfully resolved at the duty stage, with others referred to partner agencies to lead on and approximately 10 become long term cases for the casework team. Multi agency plans are put in place to reduce the harm to the victim whilst ensuring the perpetrator is given opportunities to address their behaviour. Restorative interventions are considered if appropriate.

Safety in the night-time economy

- 3.11 Police recorded violence against the person is continuing to show a rise with an increase of 7% in 2017/18. This on top of a rising trend over the last three years. However, following an increase in 2016/17, attendances at A&E due to alcohol and/or assault have reduced by 17% in 2017/18 compared with 2016/17.
- 3.12 A reorganisation of policing of the night-time economy (Op Marble) is focusing on patrolling of crime harm spots in order to be most effective with available resources.
- 3.13 In response to potential vulnerabilities of crowded places, additional training around counter-terrorism for patrons and staff in the night time economy has started. This includes training for staff regarding signs of vulnerability in clients. Ask 4 Angela has also been rolled out in venues across the City.
- 3.14 A report requesting a review of the Statement of Licencing Policy to extend the special stress area to central Hove and to review the category of café bars within the policy went to Licensing committee in June 2018.
- 3.15 There are now 163 premises that have voluntarily signed up to our Sensible on Strength scheme not to sell beers and ciders over 6%. A further 39 premises have stopped selling strong beers etc without joining the scheme.

Domestic violence and abuse, sexual violence and violence against women & girls

- 3.16 Police recorded domestic violence crimes and incidents and particularly sexual offences continue to rise. The number of reported stalking crimes and incidents is also rising sharply this is likely to be a response to publicity around this crime type.
- 3.17 The increased demand for services is continuing to have a significant impact on the partners, in particular the providers who deliver 'The Portal' (RISE and Survivors' Network). Commissioners continue to work with specialist support services to ensure that referral pathways are robust and to enable those at the highest levels of risk and need to access help and support. Options for future commissioning of these services are subject to a separate report to this committee.
- 3.18 The police solved rate for domestic violence offences (17%) remains similar to the previous two years, while the conviction rate for cases finalised at court

remains relatively high at 77%. The solved rate for sexual offences in 2017/18 is marginally lower than in 2016/17, but poorer than in previous years. The conviction rate for sexual offences at court (73%) sits between the results achieved in previous years.

- 3.19 Police recorded crimes of harmful practices (female genital mutilation (FGM), 'honour based' violence (HBV) and forced marriage) remain low – in 2017/18 there were 6 HBV crimes and incidents, but no reports of FGM or forced marriage. Although capacity to progress this work locally is limited, a pan-Sussex meeting is due to pick up on work in this area.
- 3.20 The volume of cases at the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) remains high, and is increasing, with 552 cases referred in 2017/18 while the percentage of repeat cases is 25%. Changes to the MARAC process, have been implemented with meetings now being held weekly rather than fortnightly. A permanent MARAC chair has been appointed and is in post and a MARAC co-ordinator for B&H has started and will facilitate these meetings.
- 3.21 The updated training prospectus for this area of work has also been launched in April 2018 offering courses on DV and SV for partners, victims and anyone with an interest in this area of work.
- 3.22 BHCC have been supporting RISE, Stonewall Housing (London) and the LGBT Foundation (Manchester) to provide refuge facilities for the LGBT community. The projects were due to finish in July, however due to additional funding being sourced by individual projects the timeframes have moved slightly, with RISE's service ending in Q1 of 2019/20. The project has been deemed a huge success. An event will be held during the 16 Days of Action (25th November-10th December) to publicise the findings of the project and highlight next steps.

Violence Vulnerability and Exploitation

- 3.23 A multi-agency working group has been set up to address the increase in instances of "cuckooing", ie. drug dealers take over the property of a vulnerable person, and has finalised a joint working procedure to ensure that the safeguarding of vulnerable people is undertaken alongside any enforcement action. A vulnerable social housing tenant who had been the victim of cuckooing has been moved to appropriate supported accommodation. Part of the working procedure includes the use of Closure Orders which can be used under the ASB and Policing Act 2014 to close problem premises. So far 1 property has been successfully subject to a closure order and a further case where the council has applied for outright possession of a property where the tenant had committed serious and on-going ASB for a number of months and had not engaged with support offered.
- 3.24 We have also disseminated briefings on 'cuckooing' to partner agencies and to landlords so that they can recognise the signs of cuckooing and report these to appropriate services.
- 3.25 The new VVE co-ordinator post has been advertised and recruitment is underway.
- 3.26 The action plan that sits under this part of the community safety strategy is being drafted and worked on with partners. Part of this will involve a

communications plan so that we can work with partners to raise awareness of VVE.

Community collaboration and resilience

- 3.27 There have been 13 crimes related to modern slavery recorded in 2017/18. This is an increase on the 4 recorded in 2016/17 and 2 in 2015/16. All crimes on record to date relate to either 'holding a person in slavery or servitude', 'arranging or facilitating travel of another person with a view to exploitation, or 'requiring a person to perform forced or compulsory labour'.
- 3.28 The low number of cases of modern slavery and human trafficking coming to light could be due to low prevalence in the city or because awareness of the signs and indicators of this hidden crime is still not as good as it could be.
- 3.29 The pan-Sussex Modern Slavery Network is in the process of agreeing a draft action plan, outlining areas of work that could be taken forward across the county and some that are specific to Brighton & Hove. Sussex Police have recruited to a new post of Modern Slavery Delivery Manager to help create a coherent county-wide approach to this work. The Brighton & Hove Modern Slavery Operational Group provides a mechanism for a local partnership approach.
- 3.30 Work on the International Migrants Needs Assessment is complete and recommendations have been accepted by the city's Equality and Inclusion Partnership (EQUIP). Community safety and cohesion are strands within the needs assessment with a number of recommendations weaving the inclusion of migrants into existing community cohesion work in the city. There are also recommendations around the strengthening of trust and confidence amongst migrant communities to encourage reporting of all crimes. A launch event is planned in the spring, giving an opportunity for positive messaging about the city's approach to the integration of migrants in the city.

Preventing terrorism and extremism

- 3.31 In June 2018, the national Counter Terrorism Strategy (CONTEST) was updated and strengthened to respond to the heightened threats and findings from a number of strategic and operational reviews that were carried out following five terrorist incidents in the UK in 2017. The strategic aim of CONTEST and the framework (Prevent, Pursue, Protect, and Prepare as the four work streams) remains albeit with a change in approach within this framework to meet the changing threat. A new Counter Terrorism Bill is expected to enable earlier disruption of the terrorist threats in the UK.
- 3.32 The national threat level remains at 'Severe' meaning an attack is highly likely. The highest threat continues to come from Daesh and Al-Qaida and affiliated or inspired (international) terrorisms, and the threat from the right-wing extremism has increased.
- 3.33 The updated national Prevent Strategy is expected to be released soon and continues with its aim: 'To safeguard and support those vulnerable to radicalisation, to stop them from becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism'. The revised objectives of Prevent strategy are to:
- Tackle the causes of radicalisation and respond to the ideological challenge of terrorism (unchanged).
 - Safeguard and support those most at risk of radicalisation through early intervention, identifying them and offering support (unchanged).

- Enable those who have already engaged in terrorism to disengage and rehabilitate (changed).
- 3.34 Within Prevent, there is an increased emphasis on the third objective, which aims to reduce re-offending and improve the reintegration of those already engaged in terrorism or who support it. Through the piloting of new multi-agency approaches, response to the threat of extremism and radicalisation in prisons, the development of the new Desistance and Disengagement Programme, and work with returners from conflict zones such as Syria and Iraq will help reduce the risk from terrorism through rehabilitation and reintegration.
 - 3.35 Locally, a successful 'Community Roundtable' event provided a forum for local communities to have a dialogue with the senior officials from the Home Office on Prevent. The meeting was attended by 62 people (including 2 Members and over 40 community representatives). The meeting was evaluated positively with uplift in knowledge as well as positive perspective on Prevent at the end of the event.
 - 3.36 A FAST workshop was delivered to Muslim mothers in the City to improve their understanding of vulnerabilities, how individuals may get involved in terrorist activities or supporting terrorism, referral process, and support available within the City.
 - 3.37 The new Prevent Education Officer started in post in March 2018 and is being supported to increase the reach of the team to educational sector including the English language schools.
 - 3.38 We continue to deliver Prevent trainings and briefings across partners. Prevent trainers are supported to deliver WRAP and Far Right Aware training in the City and this quarter good progress has been made in training the Families Children and Learning staff.
 - 3.39 National Channel Data for 2016/17 was released at the end of March 2018. This revealed a decrease in overall referrals as well as in the number of people supported following case discussion at the Channel Panel compared to 2015/16. The majority of referrals as well as those supported were aged 20 years or under, and male. There was a proportional increase in people supported through Channel for extreme right wing related concerns (37%).
 - 3.40 We continue to monitor and work to reduce community tensions. Targeted safety tips, information about reporting of hate incidents and concerns, and reassurance messages were disseminated to Muslim communities and groups in response to particular concerns around Islamophobic letters sent nationally. Communities concerns were heard and addressed through a number of meetings and joint work with police. In partnership with colleagues, a school advisory was developed and disseminated to all schools, colleges and English language schools in the City to ensure appropriate reporting and support to individuals and communities.
 - 3.41 Work has continued to support a range of community groups to apply for funding and develop projects which support the countering extremism objectives.
 - 3.42 Work continues to develop links across groups working with communities of identities to build positive relations, give due consideration to intersectionality, and develop work together around cross-cutting issues such as hate crime.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 4.1 This report is intended to provide an update on current progress on the work carried out as part of the Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy, this section is not applicable. Ways of achieving the aims set out in the partnership Strategy are considered based on the annual strategic assessment of crime and community safety.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The Strategic Assessment on which the current Strategy was carried out in the autumn of 2016, and included a consultation event on the findings and proposed priorities for 2017-20. Invited participants included members of the Safe in the City Partnership Board, and community and voluntary sector partners, including representatives of Local Action Teams and communities of interest.
- 5.2 A draft of the Community Safety Strategy was made available for public comment via the consultation portal and in more targeted arenas.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 This report is to provide an update of progress on work under the Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy 2017-20 and to invite any comment.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 7.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report, however, any work undertaken by the council as a result of this report will need to be met from current budget resources.

Finance Officer Consulted: Michael Bentley

Date: 06/05/18

Legal Implications:

- 7.2 All work currently being undertaken is within the council's statutory powers. Any new areas of law would either have to be closely aligned to current work or would need specific approval under the scheme of delegation.

Lawyer Consulted: Simon Court

Date: 06/06/18

Equalities Implications:

- 7.3 The Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy is subject to an ongoing and embedded equality impact assessment where specific actions and activities are identified and assessed for equality impact.

Sustainability Implications:

- 7.4 None

Appendix 1. Crime statistics 2017/18: end of year position

Performance compared with last year

	number of crimes Apr 16 – Mar 17 ³	number of crimes Apr 17 – Mar 18	rank within 15 bench- marked CSPs ⁴
Police recorded crimes			1=best; 15=worst
Total Crimes	25787	26142	7
Criminal Damage (incl. arson)	2938	2682	5
Violence Against the Person	9553	10198	10
Sexual Offences	785	924	13 ⁵
Robbery	352	321	5
Burglary	1569	1410	2
Vehicle Crime	1378	1414	4
Theft and handling (excl. motor vehicle theft)	8727	8696	11
Pedal Cycle Theft	865	1097	11
Police recorded incidents and crimes			
Domestic Violence Incidents and Crimes	4696	4976	n/a ⁶
Racist Incidents and Crimes	543	516	n/a
Religiously-motivated Incidents and Crimes	87	74	n/a
Homophobic Incidents and Crimes	207	214	n/a
Transphobic Incidents and Crimes	62	35	n/a
Disability Hate Incidents and Crimes	52	62	n/a
Anti-Social Behaviour Incidents	11431	9489	n/a

³ The data in this column reflect those recorded on the police system at the current time and do not necessarily align exactly with those recorded a year ago.

⁴ Latest available three month period (usually one month lag). Ranking based on crime 'rate' per head of population, or per no. of households in the case of domestic burglary.

⁵ Because there remains an emphasis on encouraging reporting of sexual offences, it does not necessarily follow that a low rank is 'good' and a high rank is 'bad'.

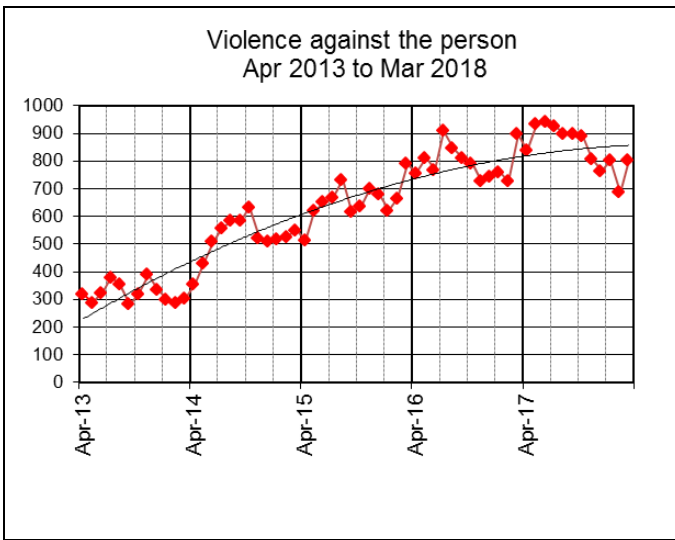
⁶ Comparative/benchmarking data are not available.

Appendix 2:

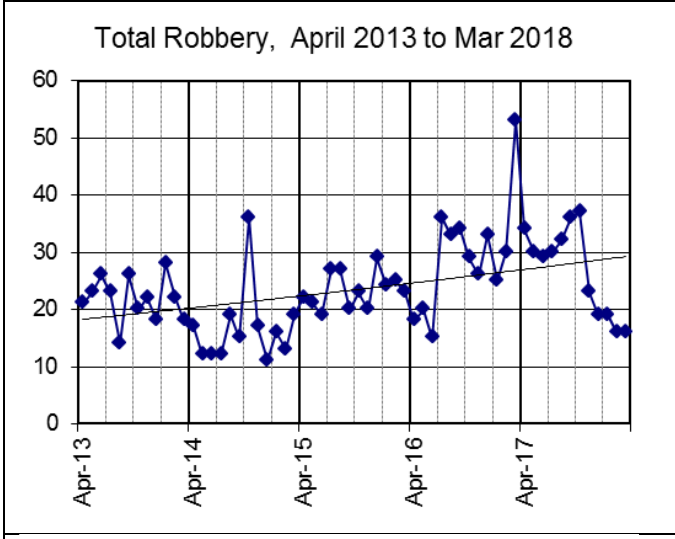
Crime trends up to March 2018 (monthly data)⁷

<p style="text-align: center;">Total Crimes, Apr 2013 to Mar 2018</p>	<p>8.1 The number of crimes recorded by the police continues to demonstrate a seasonal pattern with higher numbers the summer than the winter months. From 2013 up to the middle of 2017 there was an upward trend in recorded crimes, with changes to police recording practices contributing to this (see below). However, numbers recorded in early 2018 do not follow the increasing trend.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Criminal Damage, Apr 2013 to Mar 2018</p>	<p>8.2 Trends in criminal damage between 2014/15 and 2016/17 broadly stable, but a downward trend is suggested during 2017/18.</p>

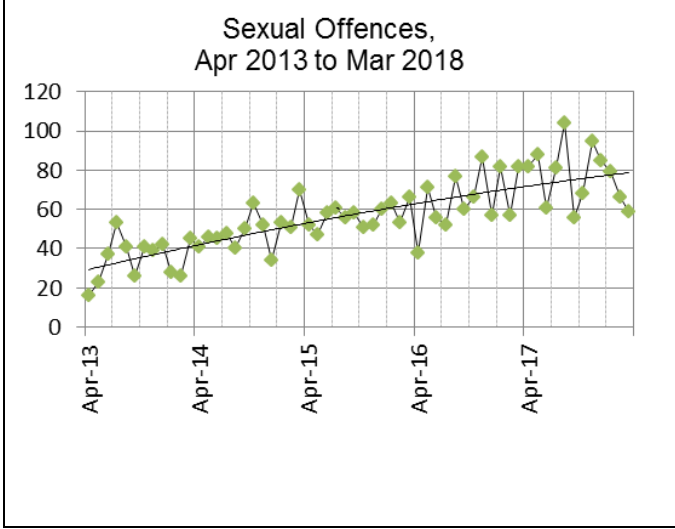
⁷ Trend lines are based on the best fitting 2nd order polynomial curve



8.3 Police recorded data show a steeply rising trend from 2014/15 onwards, overlaid with a seasonal pattern (higher levels in the summer). As discussed earlier, the increase in 2014/15 was linked to changes in police data recording practice and was observed both nationally and locally. The increasing trend continued until summer 2017, but data over the last nine months suggest a possible decline.



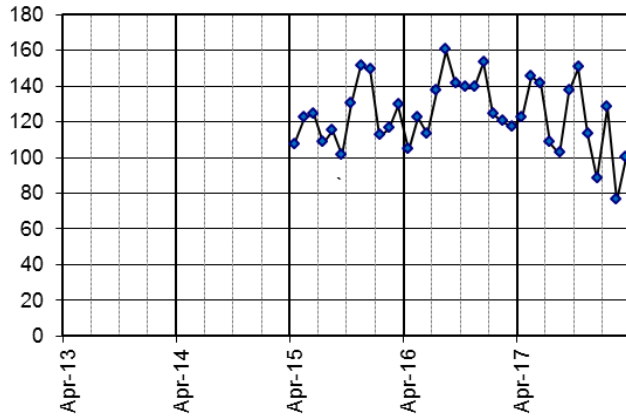
8.4 Until Jun 2016 robberies in the city tended to fluctuate between 10 and 30 per month (although there was a spike in Oct 2014⁸). However, between Jul 2016 and Oct 2017, monthly numbers were consistently above 25, with a spike in Mar 2017 of 49⁹, while numbers have dropped back to below 25 per month over the last 5 months. Most robberies are personal robberies (299 in 2017/18) and a minority are business robberies (22 in 2017/18).



8.5 Police recorded sexual offences are on an upward trend, although numbers have fluctuated somewhat during 2017/18. More reporting is generally regarded as a positive outcome in that victims are feeling more confident in reporting. Changes in police recording at the beginning of 2014/15 (as for violent crimes above) have also had an effect on recorded sexual offences.

⁸ A robbery with 8 victims and another series of 4 crimes perpetrated by a single offender contributed to the spike seen in Oct 2014
⁹ There were 4 robberies with more than one victim in Mar 2017, contributing to the spike that month.

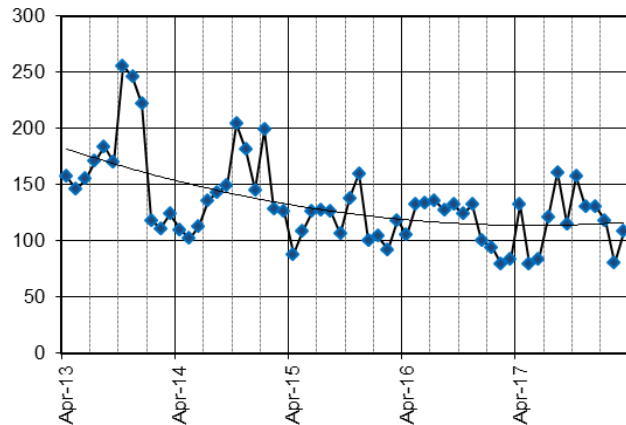
Total Burglary, Apr 2013 to Mar 2018



8.6 While there was an overall increasing trend between Apr 2015 and Mar 2017, the overall trend in burglaries in 2017/18 has been downward.

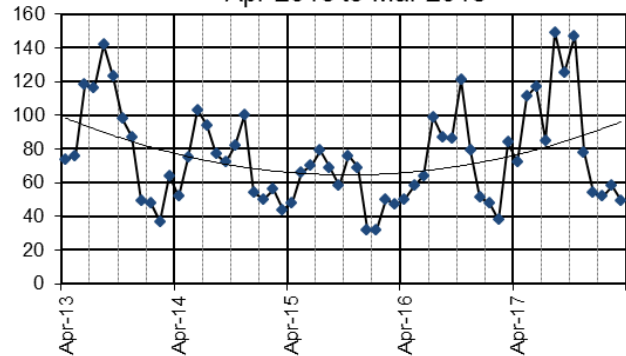
(National changes to the definition of domestic and other burglaries has meant that at the moment it is not possible to pull out domestic burglaries. All burglaries are therefore reported here.)

Vehicle Crime, Apr 2013 to Mar 2018



8.7 The number of vehicle crimes have generally been on a long term decline. Following a spate of vehicle crimes in the autumn/winter months of 2013/14 and 2014/15, numbers resumed a relatively low level, although there were minor peaks in Aug and Oct 2017.

Theft of a Pedal Cycle, Apr 2013 to Mar 2018



8.8 A seasonal pattern in cycle thefts is normally observed every year and is linked to those months when more people tend to cycle. Cycle thefts rose less in the summer of 2015 than in previous years but enhanced summer peaks have again been observed in both 2016 and 2017. Numbers between Aug and Oct 2017 were particularly high, but have dropped in the winter months to typical winter levels.

CAVEAT. Police crime data presented in this report only reflects 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.

<p style="text-align: center;">Domestic Violence Crimes & Incidents, Apr 2013 - Mar 2018</p>	<p>8.9 Recording practices and positive work in relation to these crime types which result in more crimes being recorded have been described earlier. There are signs that the increasing trend may be stabilising.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Racist Crimes and Incidents (police data), Apr 2013 to Mar 2018</p>	<p>8.10 There was an upwards trend in racist crimes and incidents in parallel with the recording of other crimes since 2014/15. There is a notable spike in the summer of 2016 coinciding with the month following the EU referendum vote to leave the European Union. Numbers recorded in May and June of 2017 were also high but have dropped again in the months since then.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Homophobic Crimes & Incidents (police data), Apr 2013 to Mar 2018</p>	<p>8.11 There was a long term rising trend in the number of homophobic crimes recorded by the police up to the summer of 2017. Numbers have fluctuated considerably over the last six months, ranging between 5 and 22 per month.</p>

Subject:	Joint Commission of Domestic Violence and Abuse and Sexual Violence Services		
Date of Meeting:	2nd July 2018		
Report of:	Executive Director for Neighbourhoods, Communities & Housing		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Jo Player	Tel: 01273 292488
	Email:	Jo.player@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk	
Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 To seek committee approval to a joint commission of specialist and community based services for victims/survivors of Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA) and Sexual Violence (SV) for Brighton & Hove by Brighton & Hove City Council (BHCC), East Sussex County Council (ESCC) and Office of the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner (OSPCC). These services are currently collectively known as The Portal.
- 1.2 The commission will include: 1) pan-Sussex initial needs and assessment centre with a specialist DVA and SV service 2) community-based DVA and SV services and 3) refuge provision. The community based services will be commissioned for Brighton & Hove and East Sussex. The refuge provision will be Brighton and Hove only. The tender and contract arrangements will be developed as part of the new commission. The Council is not committed at this stage to tendering or contracting with either the OSPCC or ESCC.
- 1.3 This paper outlines the rationale for the joint commission, involvement of providers and service beneficiaries, and indicative timescales for the commission.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Neighbourhoods, Communities, Inclusion and Equalities Committee:

- 2.1 Agree to the joint recommissioning of victim support services to include: a pan Sussex initial needs and assessment centre, community based DVA and SV services in Brighton and Hove and East Sussex and refuge provision in Brighton and Hove only as outlined in section 4 of the report.
- 2.2 A cross-party members group is established to provide oversight of the development of the commission.

- 2.3 Grant delegated authority to the Executive Director - Neighbourhoods Communities & Housing to participate in the joint commission of the services listed in section 4 including the procurement process and contract award following recommendations of the evaluation panel(s), reporting at appropriate times to the cross party members working group.
- 2.4 Approve the extension of the current Portal contract for six months (April 2019 to September 2019).

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Drivers for New Commission

Increasing Demand

- 3.1 SV and DVA reporting has increased substantially. Using reporting to the Police as an example, between 2013/14 and 2016/17, there has been an increase of 28% in reporting of domestic violence incidents and crimes and an increase of 115% in sexual offences in Brighton and Hove. In 2016/17 there were 4,703 domestic violence incidents and crimes reported to the police and 821 police recorded sexual offences in the city.
- 3.2 Although this increase is substantial, it is accepted that police recorded data is likely to under represent the scale of violence and abuse since as many numbers of people do not report. Applying the latest prevalence rates from the Crime Survey for England and Wales to 2015 mid-year population estimates shows that in Brighton & Hove:
- 7,639 women and girls aged 16-59, and 3,868 men and boys, are estimated to have experienced domestic violence and abuse in the last year
 - 2,515 women and girls, and 677 men and boys, are estimated to have experienced any sexual assault in the last year.
- 3.3 During 2016/17:
- In relation to support services accessed through The Portal ¹, 1495 clients who had experienced DVA were referred to RISE, with a further 221 clients who had experienced SV being referred to Survivors' Network.
 - 468 high risk clients were referred to the local Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)
 - 131 residents accessed the local Sexual Assault Referral Centre (The Saturn Centre).
- 3.4 These crime types have a significant impact on victims/survivors, their children and the wider community. Impacts can include: poor mental, sexual or physical health, behavioural problems, substance abuse, poor school achievement, reduced economic prospects and the risk of further violence.

¹ The Portal is a partnership of charities – including–

- 3.5 These crime types have a significant financial cost: The individual, economic and social cost of domestic and sexual violence and abuse to the city is estimated to be at least £143 million per annum.

Findings of the Domestic Homicide Review and the Business Improvement Review

- 3.6 The current service model allows multiple access points for victims/survivors which whilst positive is resulting in inconsistency of referrals. There is a systemic issue with the design of victim care pathways from the Police to victim support services. Currently, those victims of DVA crime who are assessed as being at 'standard' risk receive support from Victim Support (commissioned by the OSPCC), while 'medium' and 'high' risk victims are supported through The Portal. This means there are different offers made to clients depending on their level of risk at the point of a report to the Police, and so the response is driven by a Police risk assessment rather than a specialist service assessment of victim risk and need. This is inefficient and creates parallel pathways (e.g. where risk levels change). There is also an inbuilt element of unmet need (those victims who are assessed as being at 'standard' risk but who have not been victims of crime are not referred to either service routinely).
- 3.7 Critically this issue has been the subject of findings of Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) in both Brighton & Hove and East Sussex². Recommendations from each have been made to simplify pathways and ensure that victims can access support regardless of level of risk or whether a crime has occurred. Specifically, that there is a need to map the victim journey and review triage and assessment processes to make best use of resources and that a review of the current pathways for referral / assessment relating to DVA, SV and safeguarding needs to be undertaken in order to identify opportunities to reduce parallel pathways, make best use of resources.
- 3.8 It should also be noted that efforts to manage the increasing demand means that the priority afforded to high risk cases has led to reduced availability of prevention and recovery services. This has been exacerbated by failure of agencies to obtain consent to refer victims of DV and SV to specialist services. A recent pilot to improve triage by the police has resulted in a significant reduction in the number of non- consensual referrals.

AVA Consultation

- 3.9 Consultation is currently being undertaken by AVA a national organisation to inform the refresh of the VAWG strategy. The consultation will specifically seek the views of victims/survivors, their families and children, as well as providers of specialist services and identify barriers to services as well as what local provision is needed. This will be important information to help commissioners understanding of service users experiences of current provision and to inform the new specifications for future provision. The consultation is due to be completed at the end of June with the initial report due at the end of July.

² <http://www.safeineastsussex.org.uk/Domestic%20Homicide%20Reviews.html>

Current contracts and provision

- 3.10 Brighton & Hove City Council currently has a contract with RISE (as lead partner) for the delivery of victim support services. This is known as '[The Portal](#)' and is delivered by a partnership of RISE, Survivors' Network and CGL. They provide a single point of access and help victim/survivors of DVA and SV to find advice and support in Brighton & Hove and East Sussex, principally through community based support services. The Portal was jointly commissioned across Brighton & Hove and East Sussex and is funded by B&HCC, ESCC and the OSPCC. BHCC manages the contract with a Memorandum of Understanding with the OSPCC and a service level agreement with ESCC.
- 3.11 The contract period for The Portal is 1 October 2015 to 30 September 2018. However, it has had a six month extension to allow sufficient time for a new commission to be designed and learning from a new triage pilot funded by the OSPCC to deliver. Therefore the contract currently ends 31st March 2019.
- 3.12 The combined spend on DVA and SV services by BHCC within The Portal in 2017/18 was £0.670m. Together with the investment by ESCC and the OSPCC and the Brighton & Hove Clinical Commissioning Group, the existing contract for The Portal was circa £1.4 million in 2017/18.
- 3.13 Within the Portal contract BHCC also contracts for refuge provision in Brighton and Hove. Therefore this is also due to end 31 March 2019.
- 3.14 ESCC has a separate contract with 'Refuge' to provide refuges in East Sussex.

4. Proposed Joint Commission: process, timescale and principles

- 4.1 The OSPCC has commenced a commissioning process to implement a new contract to support victims of all crime types from April 2019. The proposed model makes provision for a countywide DVA and SV initial needs and triage service (to specifically include stalking also) – this represents a considerable change in current processes and is in direct response to the drivers outlined above notably the review of DHR findings and BHCC BPI Review. It is the DV and SV element of the proposed new needs and triage service which the Council will input into with the OSPCC. BHCC will review the final specification for the assessment centre and give consideration to pooling funding depending on the need and benefits to Brighton and Hove.
- 4.2 The DVA, SV and stalking aspect of the model has been designed in collaboration with BHCC, ESCC and counterparts in West Sussex County Council as well as other key stakeholders such as Sussex Police. This part of the model will need to work in conjunction with any local specialist support services and will build upon existing partnerships across service providers.
- 4.3 The intention is that the service will be in place by April 2019 and the commissioning arrangements will make provision for pooled budgets and/or joint commissioning with other partners, should for example BHCC wish to explore these.

4.4 Based on performance management of the current contract and the commission of a new assessment and triage service by the OSPCC, BHCC officers are recommending that a joint commission is carried out between BHCC and ESCC to ensure either a single or aligned specification(s) for community based DVA and SV services in Brighton and Hove and East Sussex and a Brighton and Hove refuge, as well as BHCC participating in the commission of the pan Sussex needs and triage service commission to feed in the city needs and ensure alignment between the specifications.

4.5 The proposed principles underpinning the commissioning will be:

- Point of contact – a single point of access with the response driven by risk and need, offering timely contact and triage.
- Passport through to community based DVA and SV services – enables providers to focus on activity which is their USP
- Multiple ‘points in’ – victim/survivors can still access the local DVA and SV services ; as can other statutory partners
- Connectivity – if additional services are commissioned / funded then they can be ‘plugged in’
- Flexibility – can scale up / down additional capacity
- Sustaining capacity for women, who constitute the majority of victim/survivors, within the context of women only provision, as well as delivering proportionate specialist capacity for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual (LGB) and Trans (T) people, those from Black, Minority Ethnic (BME) communities and heterosexual men.

These will be tested as part of developing the specification(s).

4.6 Aligning these commissioning streams, and subsequent contracts, is part of developing a shared commissioning approach to provide specialist DVA and SV services from April 2019. This should:

- Ensure that the specification for each part of the SV and DVA service has a coherent relationship with the other parts
- Reduce duplication and inefficiencies between service providers as a result of different commissioning streams including realising economies of scale.
- Allow better management of increasing demand, making the most effective use of resources and supporting service providers.

4.7 Addressing these issues would be consistent with both national and local best practice, reflecting:

- The UK Government’s ‘National Statement of Expectations (NSE)’³. Appendix 1.
- The findings from the BHCC Business Process Improvement Review (BPI) of DV and SV in 2017. Appendix 2.

Process

Pan Sussex Initial Needs and Assessment Centre

4.8 As noted above the Head of Commissioning at the OSPCC will lead the commission of a pan Sussex wide assessment and triage centre which will include specialist DVA, SV and stalking provision. Market engagement for the

³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/violence-against-women-and-girls-national-statement-of-expectations>

design of the assessment centre started in June and a further event will be held later in July. Brighton and Hove City Council and current SV and DVA providers are feeding into the design of the centre to ensure it takes account of the needs of victims from Brighton and Hove and the experience of providers delivering community based services.

4.9 The principles for the centre will be:

- To improve triage of victims at point of contact
- To reduce unnecessary burdens on specialist community based services
- Proportionate and appropriate sharing of risk between Police, contact centre and specialist services

4.10 Feedback from the engagement events for the assessment and triage centre will be used to inform the commission of specialist community based provision and future engagement activity for developing the latter's specification.

4.11 The OSPCC is anticipating publishing the tender for the centre in August 2018 and the new service to go live April 2019.

4.12 A recommendation on whether this specification meets the needs of Brighton and Hove and if BHCC should pool funding will be sought from the cross-party members working group.

Community Based Services and Refuge

4.13 From September 2018 through to February 2019 the joint strategic commissioner for SV and DVA for ESCC and BHCC will engage with current and potential providers, and victims and survivors to inform the specification for specialist community based services in East Sussex and Brighton and Hove, as well as a Brighton and Hove refuge. This will include specific detailed engagement with survivors and victims of SV and DVA (see section 6 for examples of the likely engagement). The tender will also be informed by the findings of the AVA¹ survey as well as the final tender and successful bid for the Sussex wide needs and assessment centre.

4.14 Intention is to publish the tender in February 2019 and the new services to go live September 2019. It is anticipated that the new contract term for the community based services will be for 3 years, with the possibility of an extension of up to 2 additional years at the council's discretion. However, this will be discussed along with preferred delivery models as part of developing the specification.

4.15 This process will help ensure that the three elements of SV and DVA provision across East Sussex, Brighton and Hove and Sussex wide are designed to align with each other and streamline the pathway for victims. It will also, importantly, provide time for the new assessment centre and triage approach to mobilise and inform the new specification for the community based services. It also provides staggered approach to the tendering process, enabling a level playing field between smaller and larger providers.

4.16 The above approach will require the current Portal contract to be extended for a further six months until September 2019.

Timescale

Activity	Date
AVA consultation	Early April 2018
Current provider engagement for pan Sussex assessment and triage centre	April – July 2018
Publication of tender for assessment and triage centre	August 2018
Award of contract for assessment and triage centre	October 2018
Mobilisation for assessment and triage centre	November – March 2019
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victim and survivor engagement for community based services and refuge, including service standards • Provider engagement for community based services and refuge, including service standards • Feedback from national specialist organisations on community based services and refuge, including service standards • Stakeholder (police, health, CVS) engagement for community based services and refugee including service standards 	September – February 2019
Publication of tender(s) for community based services and refuge	February 2019
Award of contract(s) for community based services and refuge	April 2019
Mobilisation for community based services and refuge	May – September 2019

4.17 Tender applications will be assessed by an evaluation panel comprised of the officers responsible for DVA / SV from the commissioning bodies (B&H, ESCC and OSPCC), as well as Children, Adult and Housing Services from both authority areas. Tenders will be appraised against assessment criteria, based on price and quality, which will include Social Value. At this stage the intention is to award a three year contract with option to extend for a further two years and as per all BHCC contracts funding will be subject to annual budget setting. It is expected that the joint commission will result in two contracts. One, led by the OSPCC for the assessment and triage centre and one lead by BHCC for the community based services and refuge. However purchasing methods will be

tested as part of the development of the commission. The commissioning arrangements will make provision for pooled budgets and/or joint commissioning with other partners, should those options wish to be explored by, for example, the OSPCC.

- 4.18 It is essential that the voice of the service user is at the heart of the process. We are therefore proposing that the service user voice is part of the development of the specification as well as being part of the evaluation process, and if appropriate, a representative from a national DVA or SV specialist service to bring specialist sector expertise. The commissioning process and contract management will be overseen by the VAWG joint commissioning group.

5. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 5.1 Alternative options include:

Option A - the joint strategic commissioner for SV and DVA for ESCC and BHCC lead two separate commissioning process for the respective councils for specialist community based services for East Sussex to the same timescale as the assessment and triage centre (award in October 2018) and a longer timescale for Brighton and Hove (award in April 2019) as per the timetable in section 4. This would mean commissioning specific Brighton and Hove only services within our own boundaries.

- 5.2 This would require extension of the current contract until September 2019 with re-negotiated provision and outcomes as a result of ESCC withdrawing their funding. This would most likely result in reduced opportunities for efficiency savings; loss of specialists' capacity, and less likely that specialist BME, LGBT or Male posts will be sustainable within a contract solely from BHCC.

- 5.3 If BHCC extend the contract and ESCC withdraw BHCC will potentially be liable for the whole funding until the extended period (September 2019) which is not budgeted for. It could also lead to duplication of service offer, as victim/survivors could potentially be accessing both ESCC commissioned services and BHCC commissioned services. It may also require providers to both mobilise and bid for community services at the same time.

- 5.4 Option B - the joint strategic commissioner for SV and DVA for ESCC and BHCC renegotiates the current contract with current providers. However, the value of the potential contracts (either individually for the City Council at £670,000 or collectively circa £1.5m) are such that a procurement exercise must be completed. This is in accordance with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 and Brighton & Hove City Council's Contract Standing Orders.

- 5.5 The commissioning process as outlined in section 4 is the preferred option by ESCC and the OSPCC.

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 6.1 As part of the refresh of the DVA, SV and VAWG Strategy a series of community engagement and consultation events are taking place (run by AVA). These will have a focus on future delivery and will inform the development of the specification(s).

- 6.2 The first stage of consultation with professionals and local statutory and voluntary sector services has been completed (in December 2017). In February and March 2018 there was a further round of consultation, including online consultation with victim/survivors, residents and communities and a number of follow-up focus groups with sample of victims / survivors. The aim is to understand and assess the impact of DVA, SV and VAWG and the services available locally, including identifying which services are needed locally and including questions in relation to current service provision and the design of council commissioned services including The Portal. The consultation process is being undertaken by an external consultant (a national specialist service, AVA⁴).
- 6.3 Detailed involvement of victims and survivors will be carried throughout the engagement period for developing the community based and refuge specifications. These will likely take the form of several different engagement methods, developing a victim/survivor steering/reference group, focus groups, online surveys, drop-ins, piggybacking other engagement activity by relevant service providers. The joint strategic commissioner will be responsible for drafting and delivering the engagement plan. It is vital that victim and survivors voice is heard in the development of the specification.

7. CONCLUSION

- 7.1 The council has several options in taking forward the commission all of which have timetable provides the council with a strong opportunity to maximise its investments and ensure high quality services for residents
- 7.2 A competitive tender process will achieve the best outcomes for victim/survivors, whilst meeting legislative requirements and enabling a long term contract to be let. This option is more likely to secure the stability of the specialist provision in the long term.

8. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 8.1 The council has an indicative budget of £0.670m for 2019/20, subject to annual budget council approval in February 2019. At this stage a standstill budget is anticipated for future years of the new commission, however this will be subject to council's annual budget setting process. The same will be applicable for ESCC and the OSPCC. Both have indicated at this stage that budget will be at least the same for the first year. If Option A in section 5 is pursued there is a financial risk that BHCC will potentially be liable for the total funding for The Portal until the extended period (September 2019). This is not budgeted for and provision would need to be made when budget setting in February 2019.

Finance Officer Consulted: Michael Bentley

Date: 06/06/18

Legal Implications:

- 8.2 Contracts valued at sums in excess of £500,000 ^[i] require approval to tender and award from the relevant Committee (the Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities (NICE) Committee) ^[ii]. If the value the of each of proposed contracts also exceeds the EU threshold for a Light Touch Regime service, being £615,278, the services must be procured in accordance with the Public Procurement Regulations 2015 and advertised in the OJEU (Official Journal of the European Union). Light Touch contracts are subject to less strict procedural regulations but must be compliant with the treaty principles of transparency and equal treatment and be conducted in conformance with the information provided in tender documentation including the award procedure. In order to comply with these principles the time allowed for the preparation and submission of a bid must be reasonable and commensurate with the complexity of the service being procured.
- 8.3 Re-commissioning a service or commissioning a new service may result in a TUPE event (Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 as amended by the Collective Redundancies and Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) (Amendment) Regulations 2014). The TUPE Regulations apply when there is a relevant transfer either as a result of a business transfer or when there is a service provision change. Prospective tenderers must be notified of this consideration at the time of tendering and legislative requirements must be complied with.

Lawyer Consulted:

Judith Fisher

Date: 6 June 2018.

Equalities Implications:

- 8.4 An equality impact assessment will be carried as part of developing the specification for the community based services and the refuge.

Sustainability Implications:

- 8.5 The proposed approach has implications for sustainability including support for victim/survivors in achieving Safety, Health & Happiness: Encouraging active, sociable, meaningful lives to promote good health and wellbeing.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 8.6 Creating opportunities for safe disclosure and pathways to support survivors and victims will have a positive impact on community safety and reduce the impact of crime and disorder.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

- 1. National Statement of Expectations**
- 2. Business Process Improvement Review**

Appendix 1: National Statement of Expectations

The NSE are intended to reinforce the importance of bringing local service providers together, understanding local needs, commissioning services accordingly and publishing data about their local needs, and how services are being provided to meet them, and setting out clear leadership and accountability for delivery.

The key principles within the NSE are:

- *The victim at the centre*: Every victim, whether adult or child, is an individual with different experiences, reactions and needs. Local areas should ensure that services are flexible and responsive to the victim's experience and voice.
- *A clear focus on perpetrators*: In order to keep victims safe, local areas should ensure that there are robust services in place which manage the risk posed by perpetrators and offer behavioural change opportunities for those willing and able to engage with them.
- *A strategic, system-wide approach to commissioning*: Good commissioning always starts with understanding the issue and the problem you are trying to solve.
- *Is locally-led and safeguards individuals at every point*: Commissioned services should make use of local initiatives and services already in place to utilise resource, share best practice and ensure that there are coordinated pathways of support.
- *Raises local awareness of the issues and involves, engages and empowers communities to seek and deliver solutions*: Commissioners should work with local partners to provide a multiplicity of reporting mechanisms to better enable victims to come forward and access the support they need.

Appendix 2:

Draft recommendations from BHCC Business Process Improvement Review

Strategic Recommendations

1. Refresh the partnership structure, reviewing representation from statutory and non-statutory partners to ensure it is relevant and inclusive, to enable the delivery of a Coordinated Community Response so that partners can coordinate their activities, review their performance, identify gaps, and support improvement.
2. Ensure that the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) and Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) are able to make the best use of the partnership structure to support local priorities (see recommendation 1) and additionally consider having a common slot for joint Board business related to this agenda.
3. As a minimum, all BHCC services in scope, statutory partners and commissioned providers to ensure effective protocols / referral pathways are in place to provide interventions to victims, and to manage perpetrators.
4. Review the current pathways for referral / assessment relating to DVA, SV and safeguarding in order to identify opportunities to reduce parallel pathways, make best use of resources and ensure a 'Whole Family' approach. E.g. scope capacity and feasibility to review DVA and SV in one hub.
5. Revisit the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between FCL and DVA SV Commissioning Team in relation to the Domestic Violence Perpetrator Programme (DVPP) to make amendments as necessary to reflect revised programme.
6. Review the current commissioning group with reference to other joint commissioning arrangements within the council, and across local partners, and agree how to deliver integrated commissioning in relation to this agenda.

Other recommendations

7. As part of the refresh of the partnership structure (see recommendation 1), BHCC should explore opportunities to streamline structures with East Sussex and Pan-Sussex groups to reduce duplication in the current set-up and improve clarity in terms of decision making.
8. Further monitor levels of demand for victim/survivors (and their families) and consider:
 - Whether the current investment in specialist services is sufficient to meet need
 - Explore future funding options including how best to meet increase in demand
 - Where there is unmet need, work with statutory services to manage unmet need
 - Identify other opportunities to increase options for earlier intervention (e.g. the role of field officers)
9. Complete the current work with the specialist service to map the victim journey and review triage and assessment processes to make best use of resources
10. Implement recommendations emerging from the Sussex review of the SARC conducted by NHS England
11. Clarify and communicate our offer for clients who are vulnerable and seek external funding to meet the unmet need.
12. Work with the CCGs in Brighton & Hove and East Sussex to develop business case(s) for role of CCGs in MARAC, including representation at MARAC, as well as the specialist service training and support offer in primary and secondary care (e.g. Health Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (HIDVA)), from 2018/19 onwards.
13. Clarify funding and commissioning arrangements for the Trauma Pathway for those affected by DVA and SV, from 2018/19 onwards.

14. Review the outcome of the bid to the Police Transformation Fund for perpetrator provision and associated provider support and, if successful, identify how this can be aligned to existing local provision
15. Undertake a review of pathways for perpetrators to clarify the programme offer(s), including existing provision through children and criminal justice providers and areas of unmet need within the community and substance misuse services, and address issue around pathways, unmet need and outcomes
16. Ensure the recommendations for the sexual assault Health Needs Assessment are shared and inform the commissioning of provision as agreed by statutory agencies at the Pan-Sussex Executive Board
17. Set baseline data monitoring protocols with commissioners and partners and streamline the reporting of key data to have consistent recording and to reflect the true measures of DVA and SV
18. Use the recommendations from the Business Improvement review, alongside with local needs assessments, service mapping and stakeholder and community consultation, to inform the development of a DVA, SV and VAWG Strategy
19. Ensure there is a robust action plan to deliver partnership priorities as part of a Coordinated Community Response with joint working between statutory partners, commissioners and providers. This could be held in the annual Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy and Action Plan.
20. Complete the planned review of the Joint DVA SV Unit in accordance with BHCC procedure and principles which includes customer and communities insight.
21. Review co-commissioning arrangements to inform future commissioning cycles, including decision making in relation to The Portal after September 2018 and other areas such as refuge and wider victim support pathway
22. Carry out a refresh and review of contract monitoring arrangements to maximise resources and capacity, looking at both the requirements of the commissioner and the needs of the provider
23. Continue to deliver a DVA SV and Harmful Practices multi-agency training programme through the integrated training prospectus, ensuring this is co-produced with statutory and Voluntary and Community Sector partners and refreshed annual in light of national and local policy / guidance and outcome from various reviews. Ensure that there is clear communication regarding mandatory requirements
24. Review findings of Pan Sussex MARAC Review and agree / implement changes to local process to manage volume, in particular considering MARAC chairing, structure of MARAC meetings and administration of the MARAC process.
25. Review findings of Pan Sussex DHR Review and, building on existing local good practice, explore options for a collaborative approach to commissioning, conduct and learning from reviews with East and West Sussex County Councils.
26. Continue to work with the CCG to ensure that GPs receive training in relation to domestic and sexual violence and this is rolled out within practices.
27. Ensure that there is a clear understanding of the training needs of council offers from the Directorates in scope who deliver universal and targeted services and that staff can access to the appropriate levels of training relating to DVA and SV.

ⁱ <http://www.avaproject.org.uk/>

⁽ⁱⁱ⁾ CSO 8.3 “...the value is the value of the Contract including the period of the extension.”

⁽ⁱⁱⁱ⁾ CSO 3.1 “...Above this sum [£500,000] and before inviting expressions of interest from potential bidders, Council Employees must seek approval from the relevant Committee”

Subject:	Review of Ward Budget Scheme		
Date of Meeting:	2 July 2018		
Report of:	Executive Lead Officer for Strategy, Governance & Law		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Mark Wall	Tel: 01273 291006
	Email:	mark.wall@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 At its meeting on the 13th July 2017, the Policy, Resources & Growth Committee, following an amendment to the Provisional Outturn report approved an allocation of 60k for a Ward Budget Scheme for 2017/18. The scheme was to be administered by the Democratic Services Team and was due to be allocated on a first come first serve basis.
- 1.2 At its meeting on the 17th September 2017, the Leaders Group agreed that an initial allocation of £1,000 per Member should be made, although the option to use funds collaboratively was also available to enable wider support to various projects that were identified.
- 1.3 This report provides a breakdown of how the Members' Ward Budget Scheme was co-ordinated and funds used by Ward Members to support local communities (see appendix 1).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the information as detailed in the report and appendix 1 be noted;
- 2.2 That consideration be given to recommending to the Policy, Resources & Growth Committee that a similar ward budget scheme be funded and included in the budget setting process for 2019/20 and future years.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 At its meeting on the 13th July 2017 the Policy, Resources & Growth Committee allocated funds following approval of the Provisional Out-turn report which included £60k for the Members Ward Budget Scheme. This scheme provided each councillor with £1,000 to support different projects and or community organisations within their Wards, totalling £54k. The remaining £6k was set aside to cover administrative costs for co-ordinating the scheme.

- 3.2 Members were encouraged to identify local projects and/or community groups who could be supported and to submit applications for these to the Head of Democratic Services for processing. Appendix 1 to the report outlines the various projects and groups that were supported by Ward Members and the allocations made to them. These ranged from improving areas with the planting of trees, bulbs and planting, to supporting community groups with activities and the installation of safety bollards to control traffic flow.
- 3.3 Local authorities have been experimenting with different ways of devolving control or influence over spending for many years and the drivers have predominantly remained the same. These include the desire to:
- Improve Neighbourhood well-being
 - Enable locally-chosen initiatives or causes to be supported
 - Support and build closer relationship between elected representatives and their constituents
 - Increase relevance and impact of local democracy for residents
 - Empower councillors to support and enable their communities; act as a catalyst for community action and champions of place
 - Improve residents satisfaction of the council
- 3.4 These have all been true and valid drivers for the introduction of Ward Member budgets and in addition have been:
- Complimentary to the council's new modernised Third Sector Investment Programme and recent awards made through the third sector commission and new annual Communities Fund
 - A route to delivery against the council's Communities and Third Sector Development Policy as well as key strategies for example, Health and Well-being Strategy
 - The direct outcome of the LGA Peer Review
- 3.5 The budgets have been used to enable to support, contribute to or provide startup funding for local issues and priorities that matter most to residents.
- 3.6 The scheme was administered by the Democratic Services Team with applications being submitted by Members and where possible supporting documents from recipient organisations were included. This was to ensure that the budgets could be used effectively, avoided duplication and recipients were aware that it was one-off funding. Each application was then reviewed and an approval form signed by the Executive Director for Finance & Resources before payments were arranged.
- 3.7 The scheme was due to be concluded by the end of the financial year. However approval was sought to carry over the available funding to enable councillors to identify projects/organisations to support on the basis that all expenditure would be allocated by the 31st July, 2018. Any unallocated funds at the end of June would be reported to the Leaders of the respective Groups..
- 3.8 In order to enable consideration for a future ward budget scheme, it is intended to contact the various community groups to ascertain how the allocation of funds benefitted their activities/area.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 4.1 The £60k funding provided was a one-off allocation which was identified as part of the allocation of resources resulting from the 2016/17 out-turn underspend and was set at a reduced level of support to that proposed in the report to the Policy, Resources & Growth Committee.
- 4.2 A similar allocation was not identified in the 2018/19 budget process.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Ward Members have consulted with community organisations and various community groups in determining how they could be supported and to what level of funding should be allocated.
- 5.2 In some cases Ward Members have combined their budgets to provide funds to various groups and projects.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The Ward Budget scheme has provided additional support at a local level across a spectrum of projects and has been well received.

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 7.1 If the Ward Budget Scheme were to be repeated in the future, the funding would need to be taken from any one-off resources identified during the budget setting process. Were it to be made a permanent arrangement then the budget requirement, and therefore any budget gap, would be increased accordingly.

Finance Officer Consulted: Peter Francis

Date: 30/05/18

Legal Implications:

- 7.2 The General Power of Competence under section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 empowers local authorities to do anything that a private individual can do where there is no express or implied statutory restriction on the power. This is wide enough to authorise local authorities to adopt schemes like ward budgets. This report is simply updating Members on the outcome of the application of ward budgets and, as such, there are no legal implications arising from the report.

Lawyer Consulted:

Abraham Ghebre-Ghiorghis

Date: 23/05/18

Equalities Implications:

- 7.3 Councillors have sought to support a number of local community groups and organisations within their wards and as such allocated the funding available where it was felt it would provide the greatest benefit.

Sustainability Implications:

- 7.4 There are no direct sustainability implications arising from the report, although some projects that have been supported have meant that improvements to the local environment have been facilitated.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Break down of Ward budget allocations.

Documents in Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

1. TBM report to Policy, Resources & Growth Committee on the 13th July, 2017.

Ward	Councillor	Party	Amount Spent	Amount Remaining	Project
Brunswick & Adelaide	Mac Cafferty	Green	£ 200.00	£ 800.00	Harvesting Rainwater – Norfolk Sq.
	Sykes	Green	£ 680.00	£ 320.00	Harvesting Rainwater – Norfolk Sq. Brighton in Bloom – Lansdowne Sq. Norfolk Sq. Bulbs
Central Hove	Moonan	Labour	£ 1,000.00	£ -	George Street Improvements
	Wealls	Conservative	£ 1,000.00	£ -	Event at Hove Museum George Street Improvements Support to Albanian Business Community Forum
East Brighton	Mitchell	Labour	£ 1,000.00	£ -	East Brighton Park Run
	Morgan	Labour	£ 1,000.00	£ -	
	Platts	Labour	£ 1,000.00	£ -	
Goldsmid	Horan	Labour	£ 1,000.00	£ -	St Anne’s Well Gardens improvements
	Knight	Green	£ 1,000.00	£ -	Purple Playhouse
	O’Quinn	Labour	£ 1,000.00	£ -	St Anne’s Well Gardens improvements
Hangleton & Knoll	Barnett	Conservative	£ 1,000.00	£ -	Fencing for Hove Medical Centre
	Janio	Conservative	£ 1,000.00	£ -	
	Lewry	Conservative	£ 1,000.00	£ -	
Hanover & Elm Grove	Daniel	Labour	£ 1,000.00	£ -	Fairlight School Tantrum May Road Residents Assoc
	Gibson	Green	£ 1,000.00	£ -	Blooming Hanover Highden Westmount Enhancements Clear up Event May Road Queens Park Community Assoc
	Page	Green	£ 999.99	£ 0.01	Brighton Bike Hub Elm Grove School Hanover Action Group
Hollingdean & Stanmer	Hill	Labour	£ 1,000.00	£ -	CASE Hollingdean Development Trust Moulsecoomb Forest Garden Ward Schools award
	Inkpin-Leissner	Ind.	£ 1,000.00	£ -	St Magdalen Church Activities
	Penn	Labour	£ 1,000.00	£ -	CASE Hollingdean Development Trust Moulsecoomb Forest Garden Ward Schools award

Ward	Councillor	Party	Amount Spent	Amount Remaining	Project
Hove Park	Bennett	Conservative	£ 500.00	£ 500.00	Traffic Order
	Brown	Conservative	£ 500.00	£ 500.00	Traffic Order
Moulsecoomb & Bevendean	Marsh	Labour	£ 1,000.00	£ -	Bevendean Chomp Chomp Moulsecoomb Farm Green
	Meadows	Labour	£ 1,000.00	£ -	
	Yates	Labour	£ 1,000.00	£ -	
North Portslade	Atkinson	Labour	£ -	£ 1,000.00	Graham Ave Bollards
	Gilbey	Labour	£ 391.10	£ 608.90	
Patcham	Theobald, C	Conservative	£ 1,000.00	£ -	Old Boat Corner Patcham Community Centre Patcham LAT University of the Third Age Woodbourne Meadows
	Theobald, G	Conservative	£ 1,000.00	£ -	
	Wares	Conservative	£ 1,000.00	£ -	
Preston Park	Allen	Labour	£ 1,000.00	£ -	Southdown Rise Blakers Park Booth Museum Downs Junior School Prestonville
	Cattell	Labour	£ 1,000.00	£ -	
	Littman	Green	£ 1,000.00	£ -	
Queen's Park	Barford	Labour	£ 1,000.00	£ -	Friends of Queen's Park St James Court Gate Order Tarner Community Project
	Chapman	Labour	£ 1,000.00	£ -	
	Morris	Labour	£ 1,000.00	£ -	
Regency	Druitt	Green	£ 1,000.00	£ -	Harvesting Rainwater, Norfolk Sq Art & Believe Norfolk Sq Lighting
	Phillips	Green	£ 1,000.00	£ -	
Rottingdean Coastal	Hyde	Conservative	£ 1,000.00	£ -	Rottingdean Clock Tower
	Mears	Conservative	£ 1,000.00	£ -	
	Miller	Conservative	£ 1,000.00	£ -	
South Portslade	Hamilton	Labour	£ 1,000.00	£ -	East Hill Planting
	Robins	Labour	£ 1,000.00	£ -	

Ward	Councillor	Party	Amount Spent	Amount Remaining	Project
St Peter's & North Laine	Deane	Green	£ 1,000.00	£ -	West Hill Community Assoc North Laine Community Assoc
	Greenbaum	Green	£ -	£ 1,000.00	
	West	Green	£ 1,000.00	£ -	Oxford Court Gate Order
Westbourne	Bewick	Labour	£ 1,000.00	£ -	West Hove Seafront Action Plan
	Cobb	Conservative	£ -	£ 1,000.00	
Wish	Nemeth	Conservative	£ 1,000.00	£ -	Blooming Boundary Campaign Friends of Hove Lagoon
	Peltzer Dunn	Conservative	£ 1,000.00	£ -	Friends of Stoneham Park Rose Garden
Withdean	Norman, A	Conservative	£ 1,000.00	£ -	
	Norman, K	Conservative	£ 1,000.00	£ -	
	Taylor	Conservative	£ 770.50	£ 229.50	TWEACK Withdean LAT Newsletter for Withdean
Woodingdean	Bell	Conservative	£ 1,000.00	£ -	
	Simson	Conservative	£ 1,000.00	£ -	Woodingdean Tenants Assoc

Total	£ 54,000.00	Amount Spent	Amount Remaining
Labour	£ 22,000.00	£ 20,391.10	£ 1,608.90
Conservative	£ 20,000.00	£ 17,770.50	£ 2,229.50
Green	£ 11,000.00	£ 8,879.99	£ 2,120.01
Ind.	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00	£ -
		£ 48,041.59	£ 5,958.41

