

MEETING:	Executive Briefing Paper			
DATE:	6 th August 2024			
SUBJECT:	Community Safety / Refresh of City Safety Strategy			
REPORT OF:	Rob Henderson			
REQUIRES:	Information Only	Decision to agree	Endorsement to do further work	Endorsement to take it to other meetings
	x			

1 Recommendations

That the report is noted.

2 Summary

The local Community Safety Partnership, 'Southampton Safe City Partnership' (SSCP) has a strategy to prevent and reduce crime, as required by Sections 5-7 Crime and Disorder Act 1998, for 22-27.

The opportunity to conduct a mid-term strategy review has coincided with the election of a new Chair of the SSCP (Rob Henderson). Over the life cycle of a 5-year strategy, key partner representatives change, as do crime and disorder trends, so, whilst the core priorities of the strategy remain, the focus of tactical and operational activities need to be reviewed.

The overarching SCCP priorities remain:

1. Keeping People safe from harm
2. Preventing and Reducing Reoffending
3. Creating Safe and Strong Communities

The key crime issues to respond to for 24-28, identified by the annual SSCP 'Safe City' assessment are:

- Tackling Violent Crime including serious youth violence, domestic abuse and rape
- Tackling Theft especially burglary, retail theft and car theft
- Tackling anti-social behaviour through rapid and effective partnership responses

3 Introduction

The SSCP is managed by the Council's Stronger Communities team on behalf of the following statutory partners:

- Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary.
- Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service.
- Hampshire, Southampton, and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board
- National Probation Service (Southampton).

Under section 5-7 of the Crime and Disorder Act the SSCP (of which Southampton City Council is a statutory member) has a legal obligation to formulate and implement:

- (a) a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder in the area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment); and
- (b) a strategy for combatting the misuse of drugs, alcohol, and other substances in the area; and
- (c) a strategy for the reduction of re-offending in the area

A high-quality, annual Safe City Assessment allows a data-led approach to fulfilling both the statutory duties of the CSP (Community Safety Partnership), but also the key crime and disorder issues affecting communities, and published on the Southampton Data Observatory website:

data.southampton.gov.uk/media/m20a2aoj/safe-city-strategic-assessment-report-2022-23.pdf

After publication of the report in late 2023, the SSCP strategic board met on 29th January 2024 in a workshop format to discuss and agree the key tactical areas ('Obsessions') for action in the remaining years of the Strategy.

The result is a refocused tactical plan, achieving the SSCP priorities by focussing on the key crime issues identified by data analysis and public survey. (App A)

The SSCP work to prevent and reduce crime fits with the Corporate Priority for 'A Proud and Resilient City' and is specifically mentioned as part of 'Help communities feel safer within their neighbourhoods with a sense of belonging'.

The strategy refresh builds on the existing partnership working and now includes for each tactical 'obsession':

- Summary of data
- What need to be done
- How we will do it
- Measures of success

The board includes non-statutory partners, for example:

- No Limits
- Saints Foundation
- OPCC (Office of Police and Crime Commissioner) Violence Reduction Unit
- Southampton Voluntary Services
- Victim Support

which helps shared focus and working on the key issues across the City.

The revised strategy was reviewed and agreed at the SSCP strategic board, 1st July. The progress and review of key performance indicators will then be managed by the Strategic Board. Preparation for a full review of the strategy will commence in 26/27.

The lead Cabinet Member is Cllr Lambert.

4 Resources Implications (£, Legal, HR, Property, Health & Safety, IT etc)

The Head of Service, Stronger Communities, continues to function as Partnership manager, supported by SCC (Southampton City Council) staff from Stronger Communities (coordination of SSCP Action Plan), Meeting Support (arranging meetings, minute-taking), Consultation Team (Community Safety Survey)

and the Data team (production of Safe City Strategic assessment and maintenance of Data Observatory).

The SSCP has no budget allocation from SCC, nor any other partners.

Work is underway to itemise SCC staff time in supporting the SSCP, as the burden for the organisational and support sits disproportionality with SCC. Many of the Operational activities of partners are 'business as usual' and not exclusively funded to support SSCP objectives.

Community Safety Partnerships are a statutory requirement under Section 5-7 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

Various funding bids to the Home Office, OPCC etc. led by the Partnership Manager have brought the city approximately £1.1m to tackle:

- Violent crime
- Violence against Women and Girls
- Anti-social Behaviour
- Residential burglary

In 22/23, compared to 21/22:

- Serious violence had reduced by 19.9%
- Anti-Social behaviour had reduced by 30%

reflecting focused partnership working in the City Centre 'Operation Defender' and Serious Youth Violence 'Operation Meero'.

5 Risk Management

The key risk for SCC is, as a statutory partner, non-delivery of for the statutory requirement.

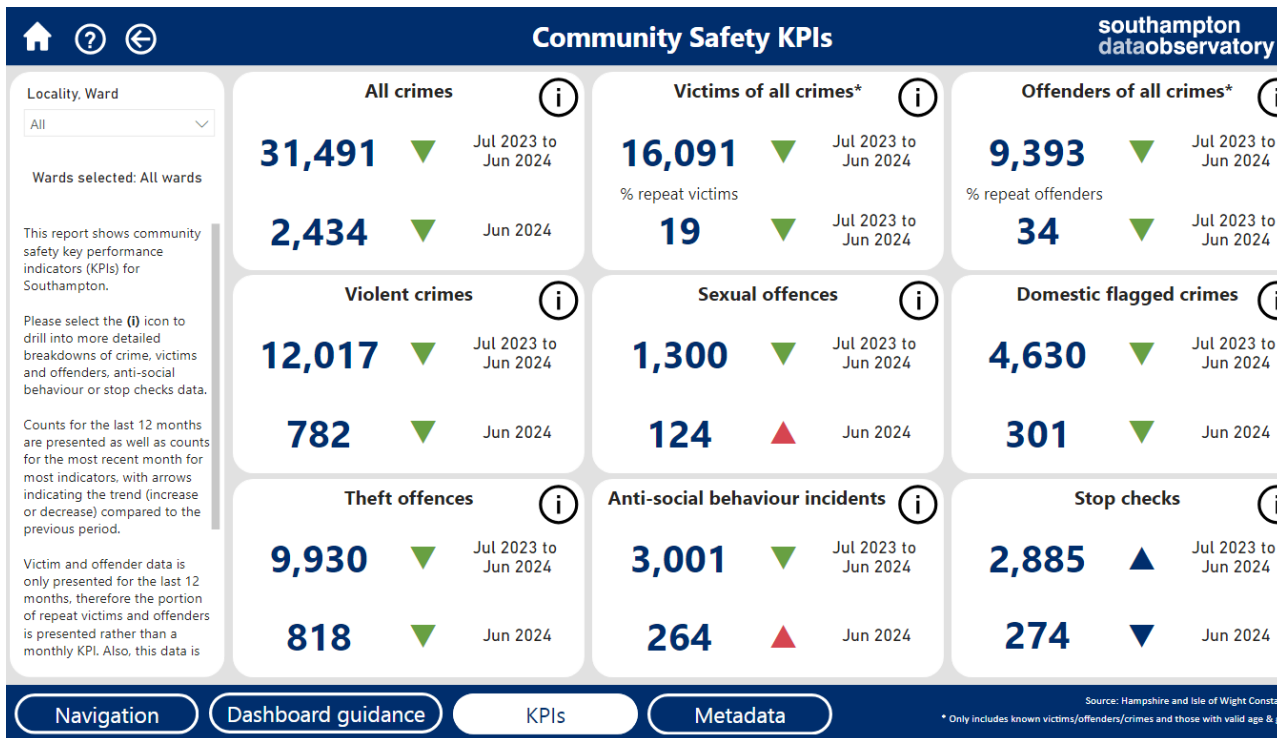
This strategy refresh ensures continued statutory compliance and demonstrates the efficiency and effectiveness of the SSCP.

6 Data/Intelligence and Evidence

The SSCP strategy is data-led:

[Safe City Strategic Assessment 2021-22 \(southampton.gov.uk\)](https://www.southampton.gov.uk)

Stronger Communities brokered a monthly download of police crime data, for which the Data Insights Team have constructed a Power Bi dashboard which supports data-led partnership responses through the monthly Partnership Action Groups:



Example of KPI Dashboard

7 Communications

Once out of the pre-election period, a soft launch of the updated SSCP strategy will take place, followed by regular updates on tactical activities, namely:

- Safer Streets 5 – VAWG, ASB and Residential Burglary prevention, including extra CCTV
- UKSPF – safer streets work stream (Youth Diversion from crime/asb)
- Young Peoples Service – ASB youth diversion, Serious Youth Violence