

Isle of Wight Community Safety Partnership



Meeting	Community Safety Partnership meeting in public
Date	3 July 2019
Location	The Riverside Centre The Quay Newport

In Attendance

Amanda Gregory	Strategic Manager for Regulatory and Community Safety Services, Isle of Wight Council and Chair
Enzo Riglia	Assistant Commissioner, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner with responsibility for Criminal Justice Work working with partners across the whole region
Sarah Jackson	District Commander for Policing on the IOW
Helen Turner	Community Safety Manager, IOW Council
Cllr Steve Hastings	Procurement and Risk Management and Social Projects, IOW Council
Andy Gill	Restorative Justice Practitioner, Age UK
Nikki Shave	Hampshire Youth Offending
Tracy Webb	Community Safety Delivery Manager, IOW Fire and Rescue
Sue Tomkins	NHS Trust
Felicity Radak	Youth Trust

Apologies

Gordon Ponwell	CCG
Cllr Tig Outlaw	IWC Councillor
Kathy Marriott	IWC Children's Services



	<p>Welcome and introductions - Amanda Gregory</p> <p>The meeting was and explained that there are a few statutory partners of the CSP including the IOW Council, local Constabulary, the Probation, CRC, the local Fire Authority, the Clinical Commissioning Group and elected council Member. They meet to look at reducing crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour, the fear of crime in the community and reducing reoffending. They look at the main problems on the Island, they are the voice of the Island residents and businesses and look at how we can improve our rates on the Island in terms of crime and disorder and working together.</p> <p>The first part of the meeting will comprise questions from the public and the rest of the meeting will look at presentations from some of the partners who developed initiatives and have had funding to do some community safety work on the Island. The presentations will show what they have been doing in terms of delivery against our priorities. Helen Turner will also do a presentation on the results from the community safety survey that we did earlier this year.</p>
2.	<p><u>First question from the public:</u></p> <p>In view of the fact that the original term for 'Antisocial' was applicable to a medical reality, and that the Special Educational Needs SEN, as per the 1981 Education Act, created a SEN form that contained the 'tick-box' term 'Antisocial', but lately, this term has somehow evolved into a legal construct under the 'Crime and Disorder Act 1998', that whilst is equal to Caldwell recklessness, is now being used to criminalise conduct that by definition of the health and well-being of the person equates to a potential medical interest/conflict that should first be ascertained as a potential genetic impairment as opposed to any such Court action from the Constabulary.</p> <p>'Poor Law' ideologies appear to have been introduced, and rather than possible genetic impairment being explored, psychobabble labels are being brand and the children are ending up with convictions that are not sound in consideration of the actual reality of matters.</p> <p>In view of the history of the term and the Island's lack of available individual genetic research, what measures are being taken to ensure that the families of troubled individuals are being given full understanding of the history of the term, and what their rights to ensure that the correct application of law and services are being applied to prevent controversy, and possible mishandling of what does not amount to criminal but is in reality a medical, social, and genetic concern that should not be treated or prosecuted as a criminal element. Warwick report</p> <p><u>Response:</u></p> <p>AG- The question relates to historical reports on genetics which and I am aware that there have been other studies/debate/reports and varying views/ conclusions since the original report in 1978.</p> <p>The legislation mentioned for antisocial behaviour has been repealed and replaced. So is perhaps not representative of current thinking or government guidance on the matter of understanding criminality.</p>



As with many terms antisocial behaviour can be used in many contexts. However, the definitions should not be confused with one another.

Many developments have been made in recent years concerning understanding criminal or antisocial behaviour and the causes of it.

The Community Safety Partnership is around working together to prevent crime and antisocial behaviour. We do not oversee the information or advice given to those being prosecuted, that is for the individual enforcement agencies or the courts to provide advice on.

The current legislation is the antisocial behaviour crime and policing act 2014, the legislation and guidance are available on the internet for further reading.

The legislation requires the relevant local agencies to be satisfied that the specific legal tests and safeguards set out in the legislation are met before the anti-social behaviour powers are used. These tests are intended to help to ensure the appropriate and proportionate use of the powers and that they are being used to target specific problems or specific circumstances. They do allow for preventative action to be taken, for agencies to intervene early to prevent problems from escalating, and in some instances for there to be a focus on tackling the underlying causes of the anti-social behaviour.

The response to anti-social behaviour may require collaborative working between different agencies to determine the most appropriate solution. Where a report or complaint is made to one agency, that lead agency should consider the potential role of others in providing a solution if they are not themselves able to take action. This will help to ensure that reports of anti-social behaviour are not inadvertently lost between the different reporting arrangements of different agencies. It may also help to provide a mechanism for considering the potential for engaging the wider community in finding solutions to specific anti-social behaviour issues.

The discussion of Current influences (government guidance, funding etc.) on prevention includes:

- Troubled families programme
- 'public health' approach to tackling serious crime i.e. dealing with the cause of crime
- Adverse childhood experiences - understanding prevention of such experiences and impact on that individual's life.
- Early intervention youth fund
- Funding for violence reduction units

The partnership takes account of all this additional information and uses it as an aid for developing our annual plan and progress.

SJ- what we are trying to achieve is ensuring that we are not criminalising people at a very early stage and looking at how we prevent and intervene when someone is committing either a low-level crime or antisocial behaviour. We can



	<p>use things like mediation, warnings and we do have other more stringent powers but those come after we have exhausted a more informal approach.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p><u>Question 2</u> With reference to the Teenage Years. We don't do as much as we used to for the younger people especially in the rural communities. We then complain when they are wondering the streets and causing a nuisance because they are bored, and we end up with vandalism and the police get involved. They need something to occupy them after being at school all day. We rely on charities, but we do very little. Years ago, youth clubs organised trips abroad etc. We don't even provide them with reasonably priced transport, so they can get to Ryde or Newport where there is a cinema etc. Would it not be better if we spent more money looking after our youth and providing facilities? We are not doing enough, and we need to think about what we can do to keep their minds occupied.</p> <p>Could there be a scheme that funded rural community bus passes to allow youths to travel to Newport or Ryde at a reduced price?</p> <p><u>Response</u> ER- Agree. He has had discussions on just this topic If we channel their energy in the right direction it can lead to problems.</p> <p>In terms of what we are doing on the Island, we do try and find funds for as many such projects as possible, one of them is the South Wight Area Youth Partnership which is specifically in that rural area and looks at giving the children you mention a positive outlook and trying to support them and take them away from idle hands to something more constructive.</p> <p>HT- had a meeting last week with Network 147 in Ryde and they were due to come tonight to do a presentation on some work they have done for the community safety partnership. It is about finding funding and extending projects already out there. These types of questions do come across our desks on a regular basis and we try and identify organisations that are already handling this.</p> <p>AG- It is about matching the funding that comes along, to the relevant areas which need it and understanding the needs and matching projects to them. There is a lot of work being done. It is for the partners to look at all the funding opportunities, understanding the problems and bringing them together looking at priority areas.</p> <p>Youth Trust- There is good work being done and it is about addressing problems in different parts of the community. About involving people at all levels and making people aware, whole community approach.</p> <p>SH- Agrees that there is little in the rural areas. In Newport there is a boxing club which the parish council gives a grant to which is fantastic. However, he understands it is an issue in rural areas and it is a good idea to speak to Southern Vectis about the bus passes.</p>



	<p>Cllr Chris Worth, member for Shanklin- In Shanklin we have the Sailing Club, Rowing club, the Shooting Club, all who produce kids that compete on the world stage. There is also the Scouts and Guides. The issue is those children and families who don't engage. How do we reach them?</p> <p>TW- the Fire Service deliver an initiative called Team Fire Fit which goes around all secondary school and is targeted at disengaged young people or those struggling with things like their confidence or communications skills and who are referred by the schools. It is a six-week course. One focus is: 'what does your community offer you' and before they have their pass out parade, invitations are sent out to all local clubs to come in and talk to them. They have found that making that connection is positive. It is about finding other ways and giving the children confidence to join and spark an interest.</p> <p>SJ- It is important to try and meet the needs of the whole family – whole family approach. Trying not to look at young people in isolation because that is not how family life works. We have a Strengthening Families Programme which looks at how we can work with families to create more resilience within families and provide support. The Youth Offending Board has put some funding into prevention work so that we can break the cycle of young people getting in to the criminal justice system which in turn can reduce their ability to go on and achieve things. It is also about what the community can do to help families feel resilient within your own geographical communities. E.g. Council, Southern Vectis.</p>
4.	<p>Question 3</p> <p>Cllr Ward – National Issue – drug taking and cannabis. A family contacted him to say that their home was being affected by cannabis fumes so much so that their seven-year-old son is suffering from breathing problems as a result. They are not sure which house it is coming from. The focus seems to be on drug dealers rather than those who are creating the demand for it by taking it. How do we help such people who are physically suffering?</p> <p>SJ- In terms of cannabis and drug dealing we don't see dealers as bad and user as not bad, there is legislation for both in terms of committing offences. The police try and have a proportionate response in terms of what someone may be in possession of and we may choose to deal with it in an informal way. To carry out any kind of warrant or enforcement the police would need evidence, the smell of cannabis would not be enough to do that. However, if this issue is proving to be an antisocial issue as partners we could look at how we can address that. Often substance misuse in general can be because of or accompanied by other things, i.e. mental health. These issues are not always as straight forward as they would seem. (Cllr Ward to email details of the particular case for Supt to look at.)</p>
5.	<p>Question 4</p> <p>Cllr Peacey Wilcox - On behalf of probably about 80% of the residents why do we have to often wait over 20 minutes for a response on the 101 number?</p> <p>SJ- happy to get some narrative and response to the question and some numbers for Hampshire Constabulary on this. There is high demand at the moment and we have to balance answering 999 calls with answering the non-</p>



	<p>emergency calls and obviously we have to prioritise the emergency calls. It is being monitored very closely at a Force level and they are looking at where additional assistance can be provided. There is the same intensity in terms of call volume for both 999 and 101 calls.</p> <p>ER- The demand going up and the nature of crime is changing and obviously 999 calls are prioritised. The Chief Constable is looking at it and how we can solve the problems and whether recruitment is needed. There is work underway but note that it does take time to train people properly.</p>
6	<p>Question 5 Nikki Wood, Gurnard Parish Councillor – one of her roles is find out about Neighbourhood Watch which does not exist in Gurnard because it has been civilianised and no one wants to take up that role. What is the future of these?</p> <p>SJ- it is a separate organisation from policing, we work with Neighbourhood Watch as a partnership. There are Neighbourhood Watch Centres on the Island. Supt can send details and get someone to make contact on how to set one up. There may not be one in Gurnard because you would need a Coordinator to organise and run it. It is about how we work with the community rather than doing it to the community.</p>
7	<p>Presentation from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSP Presentation Helen Turner • IW Fire Road Safety Presentation Tracey Webb • YOT Break for Change Presentation Nikki Shave • YOT Prevention Presentation Nikki Shave • Youth Trust Presentation Felicity Radak
	<p>Questions on Community Survey Presentation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Did you target youth organisations? <p>Yes, YOT did some workshops, Youth Commission and various youth clubs. Need to do more.</p> 2. Reflecting on what has been said so far and the fact that people feel safe and positive about community safety, that must be reflected in what we talk about. There needs to be a bit more of a focus on positive things about the communities that we are living in, demonstrating the amazing things that are happening. 3. If we did the same survey been done in Hampshire would we get the same results. Has anyone done one? <p>Every CSP area has to complete a survey every year. We do not compare with Hampshire as we are not similar to them. We do come up higher than all of them but remember that it is only representative of those who have responded. We do what we can with the resources we have. A student is currently doing some work on what we do compared to other Community Safety Partnerships.</p>



4. With reference to the West Wight area, police presence and community police. We don't see officers any more. Police are deterrent. They may be there but we don't see them.

SJ there are neighbourhood teams based/responsible in every community, made up of uniformed police constables and sergeants and also PCSOs. The PCSOs on the Island do some fantastic work. We also have our volunteer Specials who give about 10,000 hours a year to policing on the Island.

The issue is making sure that the community knows how to access those people. There are neighbourhood surgeries, we can be contacted through 101 or email – addresses are online on the internet, Hampshire Constabulary site. There is a strong connection to the town and parish councils. There are lots of ways for the community to connect with the police accepting that we do not have the same numbers that we once had we are doing the best we can. Sometimes in periods of high demand, like the summer, it may not be as quick but we do what we can to maintain that facility.

Enzo – confirmed that Hampshire is one of the few constabularies who have maintained PCSO numbers. Police try to give the same resilience with fewer people, and crime has become more complex which takes more resources. The constabulary is trying its best to keep the connection with the community.