

Overview

1. The Safer, Stronger Communities: Leeds Plan 2021 – 2024 was developed for the Safer Leeds Executive (the city's statutory community safety partnership) to hold the partnership to account for keeping communities safe. Following a broad consultation exercise, nine thematic shared priorities were agreed and are set out in the plan which are collectively being progressed by a range of cross council, third sector, and external partners represented on the Safer Leeds Executive (SLE).
2. Community Safety is a challenging issue in Leeds as with most other large cities, and several new statutory duties and legislation have come into force over the last 12 months, and we have had to be flexible and adaptable in our partnership approach to deal with the changing landscape.
3. Our inhouse Performance and Intelligence Team assists the partnership to review local, regional, and national data and trends on a regular basis assisted by colleagues in LeedsWatch who monitor the CCTV cameras across the city and are the eyes and ears of the partnership and contribute to the intelligence led approach of the partnership. A summary of crime trends is set out at Appendix 2.
4. We are moving into the final year of the three-year plan and work is commencing to ensure that our priorities are refreshed and remain current to new duties, legislation and local priorities.
5. West Yorkshire Police (WYP) is a critical partner in the SLE and our strong partnership working with the police is crucial to all aspects of achieving our shared priorities. Reflecting the significance of WYP role and influence in the partnership, a separate update has been included, that provides an overview of policing leadership structures for Neighbourhoods & Partnerships, crime statistics, and progress against our shared priorities at Appendix 3.
6. The SLE also continues to work closely with the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, and the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime Office recognising the significant overlaps between the Safer Stronger Communities City Plan 2021-24 and its alignment the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan 2021-24. Having these arrangements in place maximises our opportunities for effective partnership working to achieve outcomes and outputs linked to shared priorities. It also assists with maximising funding opportunities such as the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Safer Streets Fund, enabling us to optimise our work on community cohesion, neighbourhood crime, VAWG and ASB etc.

7. Work with our third sector partners is integral to effective partnership working. The Neighbourhood Improvement Board (NIB) and Third Sector Partnership enables good communication, openness, and shared ambition amongst our statutory and third sector partners, community groups and delivery services. These relationships are crucial, especially around our collaborative efforts to support victims of domestic abuse, safely supporting victims and encouraging the reporting of hate crime, education around the Far-Right extremism, developing youth projects focused on reducing the risk of child criminal exploitation and serious youth violence and supporting partnership responses to localised anti-social behaviour.

Shared Priority 1 - Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and Public Order

8. SLE co-ordinate a strategic and tactical response aimed at reducing the instances and impact of anti-social behaviour in Leeds with leadership provided by a partnership ASB Silver Group, reporting to the SLE.
9. Analysis shows that police reported ASB has decreased as a consequence of the increased compliance of National Crime Recording Standards. Council ASB reports have increased as a consequence of increased take up of the online customer reporting system CATS. This allows residents and customers to contact us 24 hours a day/7 days per week. This has resulted in the demand profile changing periodically over the last twelve months. It also explains the increased number of anonymised complaints.

Key Deliverable 1 - Prevention and Early Intervention ~ enhance operational working between Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team and Youth Justice Service by using an intelligence led approach to identify, support and divert young people away from the Criminal Justice System. Examine and improve referral pathways at an early stage to address factors which contribute to anti-social behaviour, working closely with existing programmes, linking in with Early Help Hubs.

10. Significant activity has been undertaken during the year to ensure we are working effectively with partners and council colleagues to reduce the community harm resulting from young people causing ASB. A range of partnerships and forums collectively identify, intervene, educate and put in place appropriate diversions at the earliest opportunity to try and change behaviours and reduce the need for enforcement.
11. The transfer of the Youth Service on 1st April 2023 into the Safer Stronger Communities Team has led to improved partnership links for the service with the Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPTs), West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (WYFRS) and Communities Team officers in the council to co-deliver on a range of targeted issues.

12. In the first quarter of 2023/24, over 800 youth work sessions were delivered to 'Support Young People to make good choices and minimise risk taking' or 'Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour' as a primary priority; these two priorities featured in more than 600 youth work sessions.
13. In areas identified as ASB hotspots, youth workers are now able to better support preventative measures. An example is, when concerns were raised at a police community safety meeting about ASB linked to young people accessing a derelict high-rise block of flats in east Leeds. Youth workers and the police jointly delivered a range of sessions focused on awareness and understanding of the dangers associated to accessing derelict buildings. Coupled with action taken by Housing to make the flats more secure, this collectively led to a reduction in the calls for service to both the Council and Police.
14. To tackle knife crime, a range of targeted and preventative youth work programmes are being delivered focussing on awareness and education. More bespoke and targeted programmes are being delivered to young people in areas which have been highlighted as most at risk; an example is Street Doctors have delivered First Aid sessions focused solely on how to provide immediate life preservation to a peer who has been the victim of a knife attack.
15. Annually in the lead up to summer, the partnership delivers city-wide water safety awareness. The sessions are targeted to engage young people who have access to rivers, reservoirs, and enclosed water spaces to increase both awareness and understanding of the risks, dangers and potential consequences associated with swimming and diving in these areas.

Key Deliverable 2 - Targeted Responses ~ reduce the impact of anti-social behaviour on communities by targeting 'hotspot' areas. Facilitate and support co-ordinated, multi-agency approaches at a local level and increase targeted operations with Safer Stronger Communities partners during peak months.

16. Colleagues in the Safer Stronger Communities Team (SSCT) are working in partnership to develop Priority Ward Partnership Plans (PWPPs) which set out local priorities within six of the most disadvantaged wards in the city including a focus on community safety.
17. An example of how we have delivered actions at a local level identified in a PWPP is the formation of a Problem-Solving Group (PSG) to focus on street drinking, drug use, drug dealing, begging and sex work around the Dewsbury Road area of south Leeds. The PSG was able to coordinate community engagement resulting in seven young people being identified through CCTV footage and liaising with the community. Visits to each of the parents/carers has resulted in four tenancy warnings being issued for behaviour in the locality of a Housing Leeds property. Three have signed up to Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs) with the support of parents to modify their behaviour. Four young people were identified as being instigators of ASB and have received ASB injunction warnings and one referral has been made to The Turnaround Project for work concentrating on intervention and

prevention. Other diversionary work is being identified for those who do not meet the criteria for Turnaround, or have additional educational or health needs. This piece of work has also strengthened engagement with local businesses through collaborative training for their employees, including how to report incidents of crime, ASB and recognise signs of exploitation.

18. A collaborative partnership response has been developed with the two main universities in Leeds to provide additional capacity and capability to respond to ASB in areas predominantly occupied by the student population (LS2, LS3, LS4, and LS6). The provision of a high visibility presence, foot patrols, community drop-in sessions, pop-up engagement events, doorstep engagements, letters, and flyer campaigns has helped significantly increase public satisfaction, evidenced by:
 - a) a reduction of 23% of total volume of out-of-hours service calls from 2021/22 to 2022/23, compared to a city-wide increase of 3.2% year on year.
 - b) significant improvements in call back times, with the average time dropping from 36 minutes in 2021/22 to 14 minutes in 2022/23, an improvement of over 60%.
 - c) A reduction of 16 minutes average officer response time (from call to door) from 2021/22 to 2022/23.
19. Following the success of this response, a new Capable Guardians service is currently being developed, using a funding opportunity provided by UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF). The service will carry out similar duties delivered by the Dedicated Service, focusing on the six Priority Wards across the City.
20. The Otley run pub crawl is an unofficial regular 'event', around the Headingley, Hyde Park and city centre areas. It is organised by individuals and is a nationally recognised event attracting many hundreds of people (from across the UK) each week. Although no actionable complaints have been received, in February 2023, a proactive and co-ordinated partnership approach to the Otley Run was undertaken with several aims identified to ensure a joined-up approach between agencies. This has included tactical responses, coordinated partnership operations and the development of a communication strategy to ensure members and MPs are fully briefed.
21. The positive impact of this work has led onto further partnership activity: the review and renewal of the Northwest Leeds PSPO, organisation of partnership days and intelligence-led forward plans in relation to multi-agency operational planning. An element of this partnership work is LASBT Officers and colleagues from West Yorkshire Police pro-actively engage with premises on the Otley Run to educate them on the terms of the PSPO. The engagement is generally well received and the message from officers is taken on board by the majority of those spoken with. In instances where advice is not taken, a Fixed Penalty Notice is issued; since implementation, there have been 5 referrals for FPNs/prosecution from the police. Further partnership working of this kind will take place at various times of the year to continue to engage, educate &, where necessary, enforce.

22. To address some of the more complex ASB issues which impact on LCC tenants either directly or indirectly, Team Leodis is a police-led element of the partnership team comprising of one Police Sergeant and three Police Officers with a specialist knowledge of the ASB Crime and Policing Act. The team is tasked based on intelligence-led priorities taking into consideration the threat, harm, and risks where urgent and impactful measures are required to offer a short to medium term response. The team coordinate the most appropriate partners to address the complex issues identified. Team Leodis has strong links across the partnership, including LASBT, Housing, Youth Justice Services, Children's Services and also schools, councillors and NPTs. Once the short to medium term response has been implemented, an exit report is completed, and the issues are assigned to colleagues in the relevant service areas to monitor and address any recurring issues.
23. In a recent case, there were multiple issues that were having a significant negative impact on the local community. Residents were reporting anti-social behaviour and nuisance, criminal damage and arson to their properties and vehicles. The offences were targeted in an attempt to silence residents so that drug dealing, and other criminal activities could go unpunished and unchecked. Team Leodis was deployed to the location to tackle the Crime and Disorder. Various interventions took place including Enforcement Notices, property target hardening, environmental cleansing support, Response Officer deployment and multi-agency working with schools. Risk to all those involved was monitored and support was offered at every opportunity. This partnership approach contributed to creating a safer community and in a subsequent survey, residents stated they felt safer in their homes and were confident that the police and local authority would act on their reports of crime and anti-social behaviour.

Key Deliverable 3 – Problem-solving ~ further develop and embed community-based applications to address ASB, enhancing work with targeted communities through a multi-agency approach to reduce risk, threat and harm.

- i. address arson and nuisance fires*
- ii. address concerns around motorcycle/quadbike related anti-social behaviour.*

24. West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (WYFRS) now attend the ASB Board and LASBT Manager meetings on a monthly basis where discussion takes place around challenges and hotspots. We are also improving information sharing between WYFRS and LASBT following arson incidents or secondary fires to help with the identification of groups of young people, determine whether CCTV coverage is available and highlight any trends. We are also engaging with WYFRS re their Youth Intervention team as they have recently received some lottery funding. The funding is for 15 Targeted Intervention Days (TID) which will provide positive diversionary activities for young people likely to get involved in ASB over school holidays (these summer holidays and October half term). These are one - off 5-hour sessions delivered at a fire station.

PSPO City Wide Vehicle Nuisance

25. A new Vehicular Nuisance Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) came into effect on 1st April 2023 and is a city-wide partnership approach which aims to provide officers with additional powers and increase tactical options to address dangerous driving and vehicle nuisance in public areas across the city. This is a power conferred through the ASB Crime and Policing Act 2014, and is the only sanction within the Act that only the Local Authority can authorise, but which requires the Police to enforce due to the complex nature of the penalty system.
26. We have already had a successful use of this new Order during a recent pre-planned car meet in Drighlington where eighteen drivers were misusing their vehicle and have subsequently been reported to us by WYP for consideration of receiving a Fixed Penalty Notice. A breach of a PSPO is a criminal offence which is subject to either a Fixed Penalty Notice of up to £100, or a fine on conviction of up to £1000.
27. The implementation of the city-wide PSPO was supported by the Safer Roads Partnership and a public consultation was undertaken on vehicle nuisance and dangerous driving; a total of 4009 responses were received which demonstrates the impact this type of behaviour is having in communities.
28. The PSPO is the first of its kind for Leeds, and whilst this is not a substitute for existing criminal or Road Traffic legislation, people will be prohibited from engaging in and promoting activities which are likely to cause annoyance, nuisance, and distress as well as danger to the public, which includes 'car cruising' events.
29. The misuse of motor vehicles is not unique to Leeds; 'cruise events', the anti-social misuse of motorcycles & quads and the inconsiderate use of electrically propelled scooters are recognised regionally and nationally as an increasing anti-social behaviour issue.
30. During 2021 to 2022, the SLE recognised an increase in calls for service for this type of vehicle-related nuisance. Public survey data identified 'road safety / dangerous driving' as a problem for most people in their local area. To address the issues, WYP has recently further invested in its off-road Motorcycle team and now has a dedicated Police Sergeant leading this team and a closer working relationship with the SLE.
31. The SLE conducted a scoping exercise to seek long term solutions which identified several new and innovative ways of responding to the issues. Use of this PSPO is empowering our colleagues within WYP to intervene with ASB before an offence is disclosed and is improving our collective response to the issues. The scoping

disclosed that Bradford District had implemented a district wide PSPO relating to “Cruise events” in 2019. This Order was renewed in 2022 and remains in force.

32. As a partnership, we are seeking to strengthen our response to the issues following the 3Es: Engage, Educate and Enforce.
33. We are developing a district wide ASB/Nuisance Motor Vehicle Strategy which incorporates our SLE responses at entry level ASB using the PSPO, as well as seeking reductions in injuries and motorcycle thefts. Within this, we are asking a community-based project, Motorcycle Action Group (MAG) to be our critical friend.
34. We have secured funding which will be used to increase the capability of the off-road motorcycle team with proposed action days, target harden a specific location in south Leeds, offer a specific intervention in south Leeds and initiate a district and West Yorkshire-wide media campaign using bespoke signage and leaflets to raise awareness and promote more accurate reporting by members of the public so we can identify offenders.
35. We have advertised the PSPO and developed a communication strategy (including on-street signage) to ensure that communities and visitors to the district have knowledge of the Order.
36. Having this kind of PSPO in place is a step forward and will ensure that the partnership has the necessary full range of available powers to stop and prevent the anti-social use of vehicles.

Shared Priority 2 - Domestic Violence and Abuse

37. The Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Boards oversees the partnership working for domestic violence and abuse on behalf of the SLE. The partnership leads on the consultation arrangements for developing domestic violence and abuse support in safe accommodation, strategy development, workforce development and creating a dynamic delivery service response across the partners. The partnership includes victim/ survivor voice who both attend Board meetings and have a working group for more in-depth discussions with partners.

Key Deliverable 1 - Complete a local comprehensive needs assessment and a refreshed DVA strategy as part of the new statutory requirements ~ specifically working with housing providers to ensure timely availability and suitable accommodation and place-based support for DVA victims.

38. The Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board has recently approved the draft Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy for 2023-28. It sets out the overall vision to end the harm caused by this issue. It builds on the previous Support in Safe Accommodation Strategy. The new strategy covers four main themes, and within

each one the duty to provide support in safe accommodation is appropriately reflected. The themes are:

- Awareness, prevention, and early intervention
 - Responding to risk and harm
 - People causing harm (perpetrators)
 - Children and young people.
39. The strategy is underpinned by the lived experience of the Women's Victim-Survivor Forum, data from services, learning from Domestic Homicide Reviews and good practice and research from other areas.
40. A full needs assessment for Support in Safe Accommodation was carried out in 2021 and this informed the commissioning of services. An annual refresh has taken place for 2021/22, with a further refresh for 22/23 due to be reported to the board in the autumn. A full needs assessment is required to be carried out every three years, so this will take place next year.
41. The introduction of the Domestic Abuse Act in April 2021 placed a duty on Leeds City Council to provide support in safe accommodation for victims of DVA and their children. Leeds has been giving effect to this duty by allocating £1.8 million New Burdens Funding each year to a range of projects to support victims and children across the city. This has included additional provision in refuge (including children's support workers) and enhanced support to those in dispersed accommodation and other supported housing across the city. A new Sanctuary Support Team (SST) has been established to provide support to those who remain in their homes. This scheme draws on the expertise of community-based organisations who have a deeper understanding of the needs of communities. The SST has been effective in reaching communities who face barriers accessing domestic abuse services including those from diverse cultural communities. It has contributed to making victims-survivors and their children safer and to reducing the impact of domestic violence and abuse.
42. Conversations are ongoing to develop the strategic links between housing and domestic violence and abuse. The supply of housing in Leeds is a pressure across the system, however there is recognition that the risk of domestic violence and abuse necessitates a tailored response.

Key Deliverable 2 - Actively engage with providers of services to children and young people who are living in abusive households ~ to fully recognise them as victims in their own right and provide the right support at the right time.

43. The Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board has hosted a partnership workshop to explore the implications of the change of status of children and young people to ensure that they are recognised as victims-survivors in their own right. Central to this, was the experience of the Women's Victim Survivor Forum. They shared issues that had affected them including examples where they were well supported

by school staff and where information exchange within and between schools had been problematic. They expressed a wish for greater support for children.

44. The role of the Domestic Violence Co-ordinators (delivered by Behind Closed Doors) within the Early Help Hubs has been extended so this vital role can continue to support practitioners and families. This is an integral part of the wider response from children's services to support children affected by domestic violence and abuse.
45. Leeds Women's Aid has secured funding for the Elevate Project that provides support to children and young people in refuge and the community who have experienced domestic violence and abuse. Additional funding has been given to this project as part of the Voices project so that those workers can also capture the views of children and young people to inform the work of the board.
46. The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) funding for an Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) to work with young people (16–18-year-olds) at the Front Door has been extended to 2025. This allows for the continuation of this resource to work with this group.
47. Operation Encompass is a process that allows for notifications to be made to schools where there has been an incident of domestic violence and abuse reported to the police where children are present in the previous 24 hours. This allows schools to provide a welfare or safeguarding response in the immediate aftermath of the incident. Partners are exploring IT based solutions to improve identifying where children are educated and so that notifications can be made directly to schools and further education establishments. There is a further piece of work to look at a fully automated approach from police systems directly to schools this will form phase three of the project.

Key Deliverable 3 - Enhance the offer of support to perpetrators of domestic abuse through service improvement, workforce development and identifying opportunities to develop specialist projects ~ to ensure more perpetrators are supported and the risk/harm caused by them is reduced.

48. Home Office funding was made available this year to support the development of projects for perpetrators of domestic violence and abuse. Unfortunately, a joint bid by West Yorkshire authorities was unsuccessful. Local partners are awaiting feedback from the Home Office to understand what changes could be made for future applications. No additional funding has been identified at this point, but work is ongoing.
49. As part of the board, partner, and victim-survivor discussions to inform the strategy, there was a debate about the use of language in relation to perpetrators of domestic abuse. The strategy uses the term "people causing harm (perpetrators)". This is because we recognise that some are causing high levels of harm and are a higher risk, so need a robust management approach that includes enforcement

measures to control their behaviour. Others need to be engaged in a way that promotes their chances of changing their behaviour.

50. The Home Office funding for the perpetrator worker in the Front Door Safeguarding Hub has now come to an end and we have worked with the existing provider for the Integrated Offender Manager Service to sustain the new working practice of strong connectivity with the Front Door victim/ survivor work which has improved the pace of response in relation to perpetrators.
51. The multi-agency training offer includes reference to the need for services to better engage with people causing harm to help to reduce risk and promote change.

Additional Areas of work include:

Workforce Development

52. The board continues to oversee the activity of the Workforce Development sub-group. The group have established a Workforce Development Framework that sets out the expectations of partners to upskill their staff in responding to domestic violence and abuse. The model identifies various levels of response and matches the learning available to ensure that response is provided.
53. The modular learning offer is well established. There are four modules available to all staff in agencies in Leeds, delivered via a multi-agency training pool as online briefings. The latest addition to this offer, is the DHR (Domestic Homicide Review) learning module. This brings together the learning from all the reviews that have been completed in Leeds since the DHR requirement was introduced in 2011. This rolling programme will ensure that new and existing staff can access the learning from reviews and services can improve their practice to increase safety and reduce risk.

Domestic Abuse Commissioner Visit

54. The Domestic Abuse Commissioner is an independent voice that speaks on behalf of victims and survivors. The Commissioner uses her statutory powers, which are set out in the Domestic Abuse Act, to raise public awareness and hold both agencies and government to account in tackling domestic abuse. As part of her role, she has been visiting local authorities to understand the issues locally and to engage with local services. She visited Leeds in July 2023 and feedback from her office is that she was impressed with our provision and approach. During her visit, she met with the Deputy Leader & Executive Member for Resources and a partnership panel who gave her a presentation on our strategy. The panel also discussed with her the resource challenges that we are facing. She met with the Women's Victim Survivor Forum and the Voices Co-ordinator to discuss both the experience of the women and to learn about our approach to victim-survivor engagement in Leeds. Finally, she visited our commissioned and non-commissioned specialist services. The intention is to build on this visit by inviting the north of England lead from the DAC office to a future meeting of the Domestic Abuse Board.

Victim-Survivor engagement

55. The Domestic Abuse Act requires that the voices of victims-survivors and children are represented on the Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board. The Voices project has been established, using New Burdens Funding from DLUHC (Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities), to ensure that the views of those with lived experience of domestic violence and abuse are represented on the board and are able to influence its activity. A Co-ordinator has been appointed by Leeds Women's Aid and her role is to support the Women's Victim Survivor Forum. She also co-ordinates a team of staff, who are based within partner agencies, which includes ethnically diverse community organisations to ensure representation from a wide range of victims, including male victims, children and young people, and the LGBT+ community. There is regular attendance and contribution at the board meetings from the Women's Victim Survivor Forum and plans are being developed to also include children and young people at a future meeting.

Front Door Safeguarding Hub

56. The Front Door Safeguarding Hub continues to support victims-survivors and families through MARAC's and the DRAM. Over the past 12 months from April 2022 to March 2023 these arrangements have supported 3322 victims with safety plans.

Shared Priority 3 - Hate Crime

57. The Hate Crime Strategic Board (HCSB) is responsible to the SLE for the strategic management of the 'Leeds Hate Crime Strategy' and supports the operational delivery of services to effectively respond to and tackle all hate motivated incidents in Leeds.

Key Deliverable 1 - increase the reporting of hate crime by making it easier for those affected to report, and increasing victim confidence ~ Improve third party reporting in schools and explore opportunities to increase and strengthen hate crime reporting centres in a range of community-based settings, educational establishments, and businesses; by focussing on the settings that have proven to be high-risk environments for hate crime.

58. In November 2022 the Hate Crime Strategic Board (HCSB) implemented a new hate incident and hate crime reporting system in schools. Our work with Stop Hate UK will allow schools and learning settings to report hate incident/crimes and will be reported to the HCSB on a regular basis. Ensuring that accurate, timely and relevant data is available to help determine the types of hate occurring will assist the HCSB to form our tactical response to prevent it.
59. Third Party Reporting Centres provide people with an alternative way to report a hate crime or incident other than going to the Police. They give confidential advice, help people report hate crime, and support people. The HCSB is currently developing a programme of work to relaunch a few key centres in the city, some of

which will focus on certain protected characteristics. Later phases of the programme will see additional hate crime/incident signposting centres being launched. Reporting centres include Citizens Advice Leeds, Unity Housing Association, Leeds City Council Community Hubs, Mesmac for LGBT+ related hate and United Response for disability related hate.

60. Third Party Hate Signposting Centres will also be launched in addition to the reporting centres. The role of third-party signposting centres will be to signpost members of the public who use their services to the third-party reporting centres or to West Yorkshire Police should they require it.
61. In 2021, disability-related crime was the focus for Hate Crime Awareness Week. Increasing the focus on this strand has been highlighted as a priority for the Hate Crime Strategic Board and Elected Members. There has been a rise in disability hate crime in Leeds and comparatively higher figures in West Yorkshire compared to the rest of the country. In the 12 months to July 23 there was a 6.5% increase in disability hate reported to West Yorkshire Police compared to the same period in the 12 months up to July 22.
62. Over the last few years, the partnership has developed a working strategy following a six-point plan to better understand and deal with disability hate crime:
 - Research - what does the current landscape tell us?
 - Awareness – increasing awareness of what disability hate looks like and developing bespoke training packages for victims, advocates, and professionals, delivered in partnership with disability charity United Response.
 - Accessibility – ensuring the correct reporting functions are in place and can be accessed by victims and families.
 - Support – assessing who can advocate breaking down barriers for interviews, attending court etc.
 - Outcomes – focusing on actions to intervene resulting in positive outcomes for victims.
 - Sustainability – continuing to improve the process moving, increase resources, and building specialist knowledge and support on the Hate Crime operational group.
63. All of the above has increased Disability Hate reports to the partnership which is a positive response to the continued work over the last five years on this particular characteristic. Officers in the Safer Stronger Communities Team continue to work closely with United Response and West Yorkshire Police Hate Crime Coordinators on the issue. A successful model has been adopted at the Kentmere Centre in Seacroft, where United Response have a dedicated third-party disability hate crime reporting centre. United Response will also be a key partner in the relaunch of Third-Party Hate Reporting Centres.

Key Deliverable 2 - Prevent hate crime by tackling the beliefs and attitudes that can lead to hate ~ Undertake city wide targeted campaigns in line with #LeedsNoPlaceForHate, including messages around 'Upstanders not Bystanders', urging people to stand with those who have experienced hate crime, as well as providing practical tips on reporting, sense of reassurance, solidarity and unity.

64. The HCSB is coordinating Leeds's response to the National Hate Crime Awareness Week and a programme of activity across the partnership is scheduled. A series of training sessions and events are planned between 14th – 21st October 2023. The week will launch with an event focusing on LGBT+ related hate crime whilst other activities include training on anti- Semitism by the Community Security Trust. A session with the Leeds Migrant Access Project will take place on Monday 16th October where colleagues from West Yorkshire Police will be sharing information about what a hate crime is and how to report it. Officers from the Safer Stronger Communities Team will provide an update on the relaunch of the Third-Party Hate Reporting Centres.
65. The HCSB is progressing actions based on findings and recommendations from the Islamophobia survey carried out by Leeds City Council in 2020. One of the recommendations was to produce a Leeds based definition of Anti-Muslim Prejudice which was adopted by the Executive Board in October 2022. HCSB is developing this area of work through an Anti-Muslim Prejudice Working Group, bringing our partners together to work on this agenda. This group will work alongside Community Reference groups which will give a voice to the community as well as check and challenge any work that is being progressed.
66. A communication plan has also been developed which covers some of the following areas:
 - Islamophobia Awareness Month with a steering group in place to provide community input into the activity to be held during the month.
 - Conference on Anti-Semitism and Anti-Muslim Prejudices planned for December in to focus work on Anti-Muslim Prejudice and Anti-Semitism with a range of speakers and workshop activity under development.
 - #LeedsNoPlaceForHate A marketing campaign is being planned for later in 2023/24 to support which will include digital advertising on billboards, in venue posters and social media content and will include content across all the types of hate crime recognised within the legislation but is also planned to include content on misogyny.
67. We have delivered a range of sessions through our Youth Services (Localities) Team to educate young people whilst challenging and tackling discrimination. There has been a targeted focus on 'Differences are celebrated in Leeds, so children and young people feel accepted for who they are. They do not experience bullying and discrimination', and sessions have been held as part of Refugee Week, and for young people that are within the resettlement support scheme.

Key Deliverable 3 - Improve support for the victims of hate crime by ensuring effective provision is available at the time of reporting ~ Promoting the Community Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (Community MARAC) so that agencies supporting hate crime victims are encouraged to make appropriate referrals to access the right support and working with the CJS and Victim Support to ensure victims of hate crime are adequately supported through their involvement with the criminal justice process.

68. The ASB Crime and Policing Act was revised in March 2023 and stated that hate incidents should be considered within the new ASB case review meetings, previously known as “Community Trigger”. This will ensure that entry level hate incidents are reviewed in the same way as ASB cases. The guidance document states that although case reviews are designed to deal with ASB, ASB can often be motivated by hate and the relevant bodies may wish to include reports of these incidents as part of their procedures. If a hate related case is reviewed under this process and there are significant blockage or barriers, then it will be required to be escalated to a new ASB/Hate Crime MARAC meeting; this new process is being jointly developed by officers working on ASB and Hate Crime MARAC.
69. Historically there were three locality-based Hate Crime Co-ordinators covering the South, West and East of Leeds. Due to the national uplift in policing numbers, West Yorkshire Police now has five Hate Crime Co-ordinators. Recruitment is currently ongoing for one, or possibly two further posts, which is a reflection of the priority and importance attributed to tackling hate crime in the city.

Shared Priority 4 - Illicit Drugs and Substance Use

70. In 2022, the Leeds Drug and Alcohol Partnership Board (LDAPB) was established. The aim of the Partnership Board is to provide strong strategic leadership and support effective partnership working around drugs and alcohol in Leeds. SLE has representation on this board to ensure that our priorities align, and our influence ensures that there is synergy in our priorities.

Key Deliverable 1 - Maintain the high performing drug and alcohol treatment service in the city, taking a blended approach to service delivery i.e., a combination of remote and face-to-face working, tailored to individual need.

71. Following the publication of the national Drug Strategy, From harm to hope, the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) announced a new Supplemental Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery Grant. In the first year (2022/23), Leeds was awarded £2.6m. In the second year, this was increased to £4.3m (with an indicative amount of £8,2m for 2024/25).

72. The grant has been used to fund posts in Forward Leeds, to improve, increase and enhance drug and alcohol treatment provision in the city, including in the harm reduction, Co-Occurring Mental Health and Alcohol/Drug Use Conditions (COMHAD), clinical (including hospital and primary care), recovery, criminal justice, and young people's team, as well as in the family court. In addition, new teams have been created in the service, including an enhanced care and prescription only/ over-the-counter medicines team. Detox and rehab provision has also been increased, with some of the funding having been used to increase strategic leadership and commissioning in Leeds City Council.
73. Since the Covid-19 pandemic, in addition to face-to-face interventions the service offers virtual interventions, guided by a National Institute for Health and Care Research funded evaluation (conducted by University of Hertfordshire) of the move to remote models of service delivery by drug and alcohol services in Leeds during the COVID-19 pandemic, which found there were benefits for the accessibility of services provided in this way.
74. Leeds has excellent treatment outcomes, with successful completion figures above the national average across all substance types. The city is also one of the best, and most consistently high, performing Core Cities – Leeds is the only Core City to be ranked green on completion performance for all substance groups by OHID. Opiate treatment outcomes are significantly better than the England average and the other Core Cities.
75. The LDAPB are currently working on proposals for how best to spend year 3 (2024/25) of the OHID Supplemental Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery Grant.

Key Deliverable 2 - Continue to explore innovative, evidence-based approaches and incorporate them into the service, as appropriate ~ including developing partnership working to expand promotion of current, and future, drug and alcohol campaigns and conduct the preparatory work for the new drug and alcohol treatment contract.

76. The new Integrated Drug and Alcohol contract was awarded to Humankind and one of the innovative projects it has piloted this year in collaboration with partners, has been the Buvidal programme, with a cohort of people who are either rough sleepers and/ or sex workers. Essentially, this is a medicine used to treat dependence on opioid (narcotic) drugs such as heroin or morphine. Those participating also receive medical, social, and psychological support. This is a regular injection, with the active substance being Buvidal, buprenorphine, which is a partial opioid agonist (it acts like an opioid drug but less powerfully). This means it can be used in a controlled way to help prevent withdrawal symptoms and reduce the urge to misuse other opioids. Benefits for service users have included removal of the need for daily pharmacy visits, reducing the risk of diversion, improved medication adherence, stability and engagement with treatment and supportive services. Findings from the work with sex workers are positive and were recently [published](#).

77. Joint working with LDAPB and SLE Leeds in collaboration with Leeds Public Health, have also commissioned Touchstone to provide support, and onward referral into treatment, for street drinkers. This pilot, known as the 'High Impact High Dependency' Project in two locations of the city, Harehills and Leeds city centre, has now been evaluated. This pilot was co-led by Public Health and the Safer Stronger Communities Team and a Project Reference Group steered the work focusing on 1) outreach & intervention with the problem street drinkers themselves (via Touchstone); 2) training for frontline services (via Alcohol Change UK); 3) a project evaluation to enable learning (conducted by JH Research). The final project spend was £73,867.
78. In Harehills, 129 service users attended between October 2021 and April 2023. Some individuals attended as a one-off, but a regular group attended most sessions. The majority of clients changed their drinking behaviour and reported increased confidence and self-worth. In addition, there was a take up of new registrations with Forward Leeds. An example of positive change includes a young male with drug and alcohol issues who presented as homeless. After receiving support with multiple referrals, he has now been "clean and sober" for over seven months and is living in supported accommodation and attending adult education courses and is on his personal recovery journey.
79. Overall, the number of daytime street drinkers in Harehills appears to be in decline according to the weekly outreach session and feedback from local residents. Touchstone has recently recruited to an additional staff member to support the outreach and sessional work in Harehills. The Harehills sessions (now twice weekly), are funded until the end of 2023.
80. In the city centre project, 27 service users attended the drop-in sessions from July 2022 until April 2023, this lower number is in part attributed to already similar services operating in the same geography. The evaluation did conclude however that *'an unmet need remains, and it is important to consider how this need could be met'*.
81. Public Health colleagues will take learning from this pilot and do further discovery work to improve existing services and systems ensuring they are flexible, accessible and trauma informed. Evaluation findings will be disseminated to key stakeholders, including the Drugs and Alcohol Board, with a view to making the TOPS project sustainable and to continue to develop targeted approaches in the longer term.
82. The Leeds Drug and Alcohol Social Marketing Planning Group (S-MAP), continue to plan, develop and promote drug and alcohol campaigns, such as No Regrets (a responsible drinking campaign, aimed at 18–25-year olds in Leeds), Healthy Livers Leeds (a campaign promoting healthy livers and the impact of alcohol), Don't Live in Doubt (a campaign raising awareness of Hepatitis C and its treatment), and the #LookOutForEachOther campaign (as part of the Reading and Leeds Festival

Advice and Campaigns Team) – a drug, alcohol and wider health and wellbeing campaign, used at the festival.

Shared Priority 5 - Offending Behaviours

83. The Reducing Reoffending Board (RROB) was refreshed during 2022 and there is now a collaborative approach between HM Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) and partners in the public, private and third sectors. The RROB has helped to develop the Leeds Reducing Reoffending Delivery Plan which is a 3-year plan aligned to the Yorkshire and the Humber MOJ Reducing Reoffending Plan, The Safer, Stronger Communities: Leeds Plan 2021 – 2024, West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan 2021-2024, the Safer Leeds Reducing Re-Offending Strategic Plan, and the work of the local Criminal Justice Board.

Key Deliverable 1 - Working collaboratively with the criminal justice services and healthcare/ wellbeing services to support the rehabilitation and resettlement of adult offenders ~ Continue to support and enhance liaison and diversion and those serving under 12 months custodial sentences, and delivering community-based rehabilitation programmes.

84. The Leeds Reducing Reoffending Delivery Plan has been developed and outlines a set of priorities through selected pathways out of offending and desistance principles, aiming to make communities safer and prevent people from becoming victims, by reducing re-offending and addressing the things that increase the risk of criminal behaviour.
85. It has been agreed by the Board that we will develop a Health and Justice pathway, working on developing actions around drugs, alcohol and mental health to support reducing re-offending. However, the partnership is already addressing the following 5 pathways:
86. **Accommodation** – there has been strong progress around key areas intrinsically linked to support recidivism (exploring and addressing access to housing/ robust release planning into accommodation options/strengthening communication and information sharing across the partnership/improved referral processes).
87. **Education, Training and Employment (ETE)** – partners are collaboratively identifying/addressing issues/barriers in the partnership in relation to supporting access and maintenance with ETE provision across the area. The formation of the workstream has brought partners together with a shared agenda to best use services and resources, streamline referral process and create a greater understanding of support and information available across Leeds, with easier referral processes and improved information sharing. The workstream has been developing and growing opportunities for those with lived experience to support; people on Probation/employment opportunities/increased communication

pathways/easier referral routes/and innovative developments across Leeds and scoping of ETE provision to share with partners.

88. The processes being used at HMP Leeds are providing a better transition for prison leavers and provides a more secure financial footing. Increasing Employers engagement. Money buddies help with completing benefit claim forms (by appointment) as well as delivering support around debts. The Leeds Employer and Partnerships team are working on 'place-based plans' which look at the specific needs of each area, working on running community events alongside other organisations, increasing access to support from multiple organisations in one place.
89. **Finance, Benefit and Debt (FBD)**- this workstream has been making strong progress in collaboratively identifying/addressing issues/barriers in the partnership in relation to supporting access and understanding of FDB provision across the area. The formation of the workstream has brought partners together with a shared agenda to best use services and resources, streamline referral process and create a greater understanding of support and information available across Leeds, with easier referral processes and improved information sharing. The workstream has been sharing knowledge of resources to support those in the community with FDB issues and increasing partners awareness and understanding of the benefits and services available for support.
90. **Custody and Resettlement** - the Custody and Resettlement pathway has brought together partners to discuss this wide-ranging area. The group has been working to strengthen linkages from custody into the community, focussing on developing an effective release process with the development and embedding of resettlement passports/supporting linkages across Leeds with the newly formed Re-Connect Service/ the use of peer mentors to support release and resettlement/ upstreaming consent to enable partners in Leeds to upstream involvement with those being released from Custody in a more timely and effective way/ strengthening linkages with Custody RRB's and the community board in Leeds. This pathway has seen significant developments and achievements since its creation.
91. **Women** - a Female Reducing Re-Offending Board has been developed in Leeds which links into the Leeds Reducing Reoffending Board. The Board is working to develop a Female Accommodation Strategy to support suitable accommodation and a more effective substance misuse pathway with the co-location of substance misuse partners with the Female Probation team's location in the Together Women Project. The Board is focusing on:
 - a Female Accommodation Strategy to ensure all women are housed in suitable accommodation.
 - developing more effective substance misuse pathways with the co-location of substance misuse partners with the Female Probation team's location in the Together Women Project.
 - developing the women's Mental Health pathway which will provide access to a 1:1 mental health package on release.

*Key Deliverable 2 - Work with the Leeds Youth Justice Partnership to implement a local Youth Justice Plan to deliver services to improve outcomes for young people, families and communities – **this key deliverable is being withdrawn as it overlaps with Shared Priority 1, Key Deliverable 1.***

*Key Deliverable 3 - Develop a Female Offender Plan for Leeds, in line with the Home Office strategy to ensure female offenders and at-risk women are being supported in the community, providing gender-informed approach to individual needs, through partnership arrangements - **An update for this deliverable is set out above in paragraph 91.***

Shared Priority 6: Organised Crime and Street Gangs

92. The Serious Violence and Serious Organised Crime (SVSOC) Partnership Board lead this area of delivery on behalf of the SLE. The partnership arrangements were refreshed in response to the developing national agenda relating to serious crime and violence. The Police, Crime and Sentencing Act contained a requirement for strengthened partnership working in relation to the serious violence duty and this Board leads of the local working arrangements which align closely to the regional Violence Reduction Partnership led by the Deputy Mayor. The SVSOC Board recognises the strong connections to the Public Health led statutory Combating Drug Partnership and this area of work is developing to support the links between serious organised crime and drug related serious violence.
93. Organised Crime is frequently linked to Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking, the Modern Slavery Board works with West Yorkshire Police and wider partners to develop our strategic approach and operational arrangements to ensure that we spot and respond to the signs of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking.

Key Deliverable 1 - Reinvigorate and refocus partnership capacity to tackle organised crime groups in the city, in line with Operation Precision and the 4Ps Plan (Prepare: Improve victim protection and support Pursue: Disrupt and prosecute perpetrators Prevent: Harm to people Protect: Vulnerable people and increase resilience)

94. A serious violence and organised crime (SVOC) disruption delivery partnership has been established and has identified the area of greatest concern Harehills Lane/Harehills Road and the neighbouring terrace housing estates. The proposed area has the highest activity in nearly all categories namely: Class B Offences, Cannabis Possession, Cannabis Trafficking and Weapon Possession. The only category in which the proposed area was not the main hotspot was violent crime excluding S47 and domestic as the city centre had more – this is purely down to the night-time economy and associated violence. This area has now been agreed as a priority for partnership work using the Clear Hold Build response. This tactic means rather than focusing enforcement only on organised crime groups, we can focus on the reduction of placed-based harm where serious and organised crime

is most concentrated. The new approach brings a longer-term strategy that engages and empowers the local community so that the issues that affect their daily lives the most set the priorities for partnership action.

Cuckooing

95. The phenomenon of "cuckooing" is on the rise nationwide. Cuckooing takes different forms with exploitation of vulnerable residents at the root, perpetrated by anyone from individuals to larger organised crime networks or urban street gangs. This is an issue that cuts across many different communities, the common denominator is the vulnerability of the resident.
96. In the past year across the city, we have seen several tenants lose control of their properties and become involved in criminality all of which causes nuisance to other residents and unsettles our communities. As well as the clear ASB and Crime Issues, cuckooing can lead to homelessness as the victims often flee, which may cause a strain on other services. LASBT work in partnership with partners to deliver training in relation to cuckooing, including what the signs are, how to support the victims and how to report to LASBT.
97. Another tactic in dealing with cuckooing is the use of Premises Closure Orders. This legislation allows for flexibility in that you can allow a tenant to remain, or name specific people who are allowed to enter, such as support workers, family network etc, whilst denying access to those who have coerced the occupant. In the past 18 months, LASBT has secured 46 closure orders of this type which has led to a downturn in complaints about those addresses and safeguarded the vulnerable whilst helping to prevent homelessness.

Operation Jemlock (West Yorkshire VRU funded)

98. Since 1st of April 2023 Operation Jemlock have patrolled 22 Serious Violent Crime Hotspots across Leeds, 7 days a week. These patrols have led to 308 stop and searches, 137 arrests and 32 weapons recovered. Operation Jemlock are working closely with District policing teams to support long term problem solving in hotspots which have been identified as scoring high on the crime harm index (areas in which the most serious crimes occur). This work will continue uninterrupted with funding secured until April 2025. Over the last 12-months Jemlock hotspots on average have witnessed a 12% reduction in Serious Violent Crime when compared to the previous 12 months.
99. Operation Jemlock continue to work with Leeds District in the deployments of project spotlight to support the Night-time Economy plans and Operation Capital. There is also support given to Neighbourhood Policing Teams in the run up to Chapeltown carnival, increasing the numbers of patrols and engagement visits. The year will see a first in the use of Jemlock officers at Leeds Festival focus on preventing violence against women and girls.
100. Operation Jemlock have been supporting engagement with several members of the public and community groups coming on a 'ride along' to see first-hand the

operation and the work that is being carried out. This has been to explore individuals and communities understanding in the use of stop and search and explore the questions around disproportionality. These have been extremely insightful for all and will continue across the year.

Operation Uche

101. In addition, Operation Jemlock deliver Operation Uche on behalf of WYP. Operation Uche is work conducted with the Inland Border Command, Border Force, (UKBA) to handle requests around parcels being sent to addresses across WY. Officers working will visit these addresses and intercept illegally imported weapons purchased over the internet and process to a positive outcome. In the last 12 months there has been 100 of these, 90 had a positive outcome.

Operation Sceptre

102. Operation Jemlock led the national knife crime weeks of action on behalf of WYP, Operation Sceptre. This involved working with District policing teams and partners to carry out a range of activity, including enforcement, weapons safety sweeps, test purchasing of knives, deployment of knife arches and a wide range of engagement activity in communities and schools. Outcomes from this operation include:

- Total of 100 arrests were made during the week.
- 75 arrests, 25 linked directly to knives with 19 knives recovered.
- 17 arrests linked to 40 stop and Search with 7 weapons recovered.
- 8 Search Warrants
- 41 weapon sweeps with 18 knives recovered.
- 90 engagement events (schools and community)
- 35 retail and test purchase visits
- 2 knife arch operations

Key Deliverable 2 - Work in partnership to develop the early identification and intervention agenda to reduce youth violence through a collaborative approach; delivering universal and targeted services, based on intelligence led work in localities of concern.

103. Over the last 12 months SVSOC partners have worked closely with the West Yorkshire Violence Reduction partnership to deliver against the statutory requirement to undertake a strategic assessment of serious violence in Leeds and West Yorkshire and contribute to the Serious Violence Strategy for West Yorkshire. Regular reports have been submitted to assess the regional partnerships compliance and timely progress is being made.
104. Partners in Leeds recognise the escalating challenge of serious violence for young people and completed a partnership review of current arrangements and progress. It was agreed that partners would explore the development of a more integrated practice model based on the principles used in child exploitation focused on Risk Outside The Home (ROTH).

105. Partners have developed and committed to a local model for improving practice and local integration around young people at risk of serious violence. Phase one of the approach sees greater integration through the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements between West Yorkshire Police and Children's Services and includes an additional dedicated police resource at the Front Door working with Children's Services Duty and Advice. This enables closer information sharing and swifter intervention to support young people and their families.
106. The second phase is focused on integrating protective partner support in locality with the proposed introduction of 3 area meetings where protective partners work alongside Children's Services Social Care and West Yorkshire Police to explore additional early intervention and protective actions to reduce serious violence risk. Partners have worked with a group of secondary schools to ensure that local education inclusion activity can be aligned to the latest support offer. Third Sector community partners funded through the Violence Reduction Partnership will support these meetings and have a strong role in understanding the community picture surround the presenting youth violence issues and supporting young people to engage in positive activities. The new arrangements will be introduced from the Autumn term and will be monitored over the first 6 months to evaluate progress.

SAFE Task Force

107. Leeds was allocated additional funding from the Department for Education and Employment to support the development of a SAFE taskforce for Leeds. The SAFE taskforce brings together schools and partners to support young people with challenging behaviour, enabling them to attend school regularly so they can fulfil their potential and prevent costly poor life outcomes by inspiring them to exceed their expectations. The programme is designed to be schools led and enables schools to support young people within their school and community, by bringing them together to collectively manage funding for targeted activity to support inclusion (2022-2025). The Leeds SAFE taskforce was awarded £3.7m in total, with circa £2.8m available for commissioned interventions in the delivery phase (2022/23 - 2024/25).
108. The Leeds SAFE Taskforce's primary intervention is Education Inclusion Mentoring. SAFE has recruited 19 Education Inclusion Mentors (EIMs), due to the funding criteria the majority of mentor are in the East of the city, although all school-based Area Inclusion Partnerships across the city have access to 1 or 2 additional mentors.

West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Partnership Locality Grant funding

109. Leeds secured £178k VRU grant funding for 2023/24 to continue the Third Sector led community youth work in areas where there is evidence of high presenting level

of youth violence (a stipulation of the funding). We recognise the expertise and importance of the voluntary community sector and their insight into the community challenges of serious violence.

110. Annually, the projects have collectively reached and been delivered to more than 500 young people who have been identified as high risk or involved in youth violence. These programmes range from bespoke work in relation to gangs, through to early intervention activity to support positive behaviour.

Key Deliverable 3 - In line with addressing Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking plans, continue to align activity around the 4Psplan (Prepare-Pursue-Prevent-Protect) by

- *Raising public awareness and workforce development.*
- *Increase intelligence sharing to identify more victims and prosecute more perpetrators.*
- *Provide a quality, partnership response to victims.*

111. The Modern Slavery Board delivery plan continues to be aligned to ‘the 4Ps’: prepare, pursue, prevent, and protect. A key focus of work delivered to date under this plan has been raising awareness amongst the public, targeted communities, and specific sectors about what modern slavery is, the signs and indicators that it is happening, how to report it and how to prevent it.

112. Recognising the most common nationalities of modern slavery victims, videos aimed at potential victims and communities have been developed and translated in English, Vietnamese and Albanian. These videos, produced in partnership with Hope for Justice, aim to reduce fear of authorities which is a common barrier that prevents victims from seeking help.

113. On Anti-Slavery Day 2022 the Leeds Pledge to Tackle Modern Slavery was signed by ten key public sector organisations in the city and launched at an event at Leeds Civic Hall, which was widely attended by delegates from the private, public and third sector. A comprehensive modern slavery toolkit was developed to encourage delegates to act and included sections on recognising modern slavery, reporting it, supporting victims, taking steps to prevent it, and raising awareness. Already several large Leeds organisations, including the Council have a supply chain statement in place to support reducing the prevalence of modern slavery in the supply chain. Operational partners have also improved the pathway process for the National Referral Mechanism to ensure we can respond quickly to individuals who may be victims of modern slavery.

Shared Priority 7: Exploitation and Radicalisation

114. The Prevent Team (a service area within the wider Safer Stronger Communities Team) leads the city’s partnership Prevent counter terrorism work as part of the

Prevent Duty responsibilities that sit with the Local Authority. This work is focussed on identifying those people most at risk of radicalisation and violent extremism. Extensive city-wide governance arrangements underpin the operational work including the CONTEST (national counter terrorism strategy) Gold, Prevent Silver and Channel multiagency panels through which work is coordinated. This year the Home Office highlighted Leeds as having an exceptionally effective partnership approach to Prevent as part of the annual assessment process.

115. In addition, we have developed innovative working relationships with key stakeholders across the city to raise awareness of child criminal and sexual exploitation. These include strong relationships with community-based organisations supporting our work keeping children and young people safe from an early intervention and problem-solving perspective, as well as through work with the likes of the locality youth service, targeted work in specific wards and through our multi agency front door referral and wider safeguarding working arrangements by way of examples.

Key Deliverables 1 - Work in partnership to identify children at risk of child sexual exploitation and/or child criminal exploitation and mitigate risks through early identification and intervention plans.

116. West Yorkshire Police and Leeds City Council worked together with the Leeds BID and Leeds Hotels and Venues Association to deliver an in-person safeguarding conference to Leeds hoteliers to raise awareness of child criminal and sexual exploitation and how this presents in the hotel industry. Hoteliers were given information and resources to help staff in a range of roles recognise the signs and indicators of exploitation taking place in their hotels, how to respond if they suspect it, and how to prevent it through policies and procedures.
117. The contextual Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) partners meet monthly to identify locations where children are potentially at risk of exploitation. Partners work together to develop support plans to mitigate and reduce risk to children and young people. For example, in the first six months of 2023, the multi-agency team has identified three areas associated with derelict buildings where young people, some of whom are reported missing, are congregating. Each of these locations has a partnership plan in place, and partners have secured access to these properties and undertaken work to make them safe where possible. They have also established appropriate safeguarding arrangements for all young people identified as being at risk.

Key Deliverable 2 - Using safeguarding principles, provide tailored multi-agency to: i) support those identified most at risk of radicalisation; ii) look to rehabilitate individuals known to have ideologies that potentially put themselves and the wider community at risk of serious harm.

118. Prevent awareness training remains a core focus of training delivery, ensuring understanding of the process of radicalisation and the referral procedure for concerns.

119. An extensive training programme has been in place throughout the year and enables partners to gain a better understanding of a range of ideologies and vulnerabilities that can draw individuals towards terrorism. Examples of this include training delivered to health professionals, child minders, teachers, and other front-line professionals that are ideally placed to support vulnerable individuals. The training programme is constantly updated to take account of new and emerging issues, such as the Manosphere and Misogyny, that upskills partners on the complex issues that can seek to radicalise vulnerable individuals.
120. The Channel panel, (a multi-agency partnership that provides bespoke support for individuals identified as vulnerable to radicalisation), continues to meet monthly. The panel has seen a large increase in referrals and Channel cases this year that are received from a wide range of sectors. Predominant ideologies identified are Extreme Right-Wing or Mixed, Unclear and Unstable. Mental health also remains a key concern as are the number with autism or suspected autism and there has also been a shift to a much younger cohort of people referred to Channel.

Key Deliverable 3 - Strengthen existing local partnerships, specifically working online and offline to empower young people, families and communities, to build capacity through community engagement and civil society organisations.

121. During 2022/23, our community projects continued to play a pivotal role in building understanding of Prevent and radicalisation and increase the 'buy-in' from communities where we know that extremism and anti-Prevent sentiment may be present. Projects include focused and intensive work with young people who are viewed as 'hard to reach', and tackles current concerns and global events that are impacting them. Tackling the intertwined issues of radicalisation, substance misuse and other vulnerabilities through a holistic programme of support, and a project that continues to develop ways to respond to the hateful narratives and influence of the far-right.
122. Further engagement has taken place with elected members and the community through two successful roundtable events that took place in September 2022, both of which were well attended and created lots of discussion on how to build resilience against extremist narratives. In addition, the Prevent team constantly pursue new engagement opportunities to raise awareness of the Prevent agenda and increase understanding of radicalisation. Working with the community and third sector organisations is key to the success of this work and further support has been provided with organisations including Emmaus Leeds, Palm Cove and The Conservation Volunteers and New Wortley Community Centre.
123. New relationships have also been established with international partners such as radicalisation prevention practitioners in Bremen to enhance our respective approaches to prevention and to better understand the challenges of reintegrating foreign fighters into society.

Priority 8 - People with multiple needs (Street Users and Sex Workers)

124. For this priority there is a governance, accountability, and meetings schema, including partnership arrangements (Gold, Silver, and Bronze) connecting operational delivery/ planned continuous improvement and strategic accountability, direction and development. The chair of Silver reports into Safer Leeds Executive.
125. Reducing the scale and prevalence of rough sleeping remains a priority for the city and at the core of our ambition is preventing rough sleeping happening in the first place. When it does happen, a tailored and person-centred package will be offered to the individual, enabling them to move away from the streets swiftly, into a safe home and thereby reduce the risk of returning to the streets. This must be a collective responsibility, so the 'system' works in an integrated way, making every adult matter and making every contact count.
- Anybody rough sleeping or at risk, is identified and is offered helped (**Prevention**)
 - Nobody in temporary accommodation returns to the streets (**Intervention**)
 - Everybody receives an appropriate offer of support (**Recovery**)
126. The annual rough sleeping count is a 'snapshot' in time and like many other cities reducing rough sleeping remains a significant challenge. The official Annual Single Night Rough Sleeping Count (Nov 2022) was 37. Leeds is holding a 'steady position' when a per 100,00 population core cities comparator figures is used, with five core cities recording a higher figure.
127. Since the official count there have been some increases in the monthly levels of rough sleepers in Leeds, these reflect the uplift in the levels of footfall in the City Centre area, from where most Rough Sleeping is reported, as well as an increased influx of individuals from outside of Leeds and is also linked to seasonal trends. Newly identified rough sleepers are rapidly engaged and supported, with Leeds being consistently the first and/ or second-best performing core city for people newly accommodated in off street accommodation each month.
128. For Leeds Street Support, a suite of new information and performance metrics will be introduced in 2023, and all local authorities will be expected to monitor and report on them as part of the Rough Sleeping Initiative (DLUCH). The intention is for a total of eight new metrics to be introduced, but the initial requirement will be to report on 5 (the remaining three measures are still to be finalized).

Key Deliverable 1 – Relaunch, refresh and refocus the city-wide Homeless Prevention Forum to ensure local plans continue to develop a blended accommodation offer ~ Work with housing providers to create movement in the supported housing pathways and examine requirements of emergency accommodation.

129. Over this period work on the new Leeds Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy (2023-2027) has been undertaken, as required by the Homelessness Act 2002. Through the re-established Homeless Prevention Forum, extensive consultation was conducted to ensure the voices of the wider sector and those with lived experience of homelessness were central in the development of the strategy. The Leeds Street Support partnership also conducted a learning review to inform and prioritise a refreshed delivery plan for 2023/24, as part of the Rough Sleeping Initiative funding (DLUCH) requirements.
130. In addition to the existing local authority provision and commissioned services funded by Leeds City Council, we were successful in securing £4m from DULCH as part of the Rough Sleeping Initiative allocation. This is tapered funding cover 2022-2025, which includes a mix of staffing as part of the Leeds Street Support partnership and accommodation provision. This has enabled the city to increase its blended accommodation on top of the existing infrastructure, for people in need.

Examples of enhanced provision include:

- a) Through the Next Steps and Rough Sleepers Accommodation Programme Rounds, Leeds City Council have been able to purchase, refurbish, and let over twenty properties (single person homes). There are an additional ten at various stages, it is anticipated that these will be completed by March 2024. These properties will provide a home for individuals and legacy in the city.
- b) Somewhere Safe to Stay (managed through St Anne's Community Services): provides twelve emergency accommodation spaces for females. This includes two emergency rooms with shared facilities, four 2-bedroom flats with shared facilities and three self-contained rooms and pathway for move-on through 'Somewhere Safe to Live'. (Rough Sleepers Initiative funded to March 2025).
- c) Kingston (managed through St George's Crypt): provides twenty-four off-street self-contained rooms for males. (Rough Sleepers Initiative funded to September 2024).
- d) Ashlar House (managed through St George's Crypt): provides twelve off-street self-contained rooms for males, this is part of the Night Shelter Transformation Fund.
- e) Building Your Future ~ Kirkstall Road: This innovative collaboration between Clarion Housing, the Crypt and Leeds City Council is for single homeless people, it provides 9 self-contained modular units, appropriate support for people, opportunity for employment on the site and with the potential to secure an affordable home when built, as part of the mixed development.
- f) A converted Chapel (run by WYDAN): provides ten single units for males, moving away from 'dormitory style rooms' to 'individual safe pods', working in collaboration with Leeds Street Support Partnership and the Migrant Third Sector Partnership, to support people with uncertain or restricted eligibility due to their immigration status.
- g) Significant improvements in the housing pathway process through the Choice Based Letting application process, following workforce development has occurred with housing providers. This has resulted in more timely and appropriate movement from supported housing pathways. This has seen all services flexing, so enabling people to move into their own tenancies when

ready and when available, with support if required from an assigned Navigator. Work continues to further improve the accommodation offer and pathways, including aiding our trusted voluntary and community sector partners in obtaining 'Registered Providers' status, so they can apply and hopefully access funding from Home England for purchase and repair and/or new build schemes for the homeless, when funding opportunities arise.

- h) The Barca-Leeds Navigators (LCC commissioned service) work across the city supporting c100-120 people at any one time and have a continuous flow of new referrals. Often working with people who are reluctant or unable to work with mainstream services due to past trauma, providing intensive support to ensure tenancies are sustained. Evaluation has demonstrated that Navigators are effective at supporting people who are rough sleeping in all elements of complexity, enabling recovery and reducing the attrition rates of returning to the streets. For this cohort in this period it includes an 85% reduction in rough sleeping, 70% sustained tenancy for 3-6 months, 75% reduced hospital admissions and 78% accessed substance use treatment. The work of the 'Navigators' in supporting people to sustain their tenancies is having an impact with attrition within this cohort being very low.

Key Deliverable 2 – Further develop enhanced provision for service users with mental health issues ~ Work with health commissioners to further develop collaboration, joint commissioning, and delivery models.

131. Fundamentally, rough sleeping is a health and wellbeing issue and through collaboration, joint commissioning, and delivery models, the city takes a proactive approach. Building rapport and trust is key for facilitating engagement and provision of acute and preventative healthcare of individual.

Examples of enhanced provision include:

- a) A wider co-ordinated street support offer through the extension of Bevan Healthcare provision and the Forward Leeds drug and alcohol team, which is jointly commissioned. This ensures that physical and mental health, as well as wellbeing with support, are central to an individual according to their needs.
- b) The Hospital In-reach Team are integrated into Leeds Street Support and through identifying patients admitted to hospital wards or attending A&E, the hospital-based team, provides proactive and personalised care and discharge planning for homeless patients. The team aims to improve the experience of health and social care services for people experiencing homelessness, as well as supporting their GP registration and healthcare provision upon discharge from hospital.
- c) The Intermediate Care Service work closely with the hospital in-reach team, providing suitable accommodation and appropriate primary healthcare support for homeless patients no longer requiring acute hospital healthcare and enables them to be safely discharged. The step-down facility allows for more effective recovery and rehabilitation, improving quality of life and reducing risk of further illness and admission.
- d) The Safeguarding and Risk Manager (SARM) has progressed good practice around risk management to safeguard adults with care and support needs at

an operational level. This resource helps inform practitioners (and their managers), so they are better informed on different agencies roles and responsibilities and have tools to aid them in the risk management of people they work with. In April 2022, a dedicated social worker has been assigned to case manage a few high-risk cases undertaking Community Care and Mental Capacity (Care Act) assessments, undertake safeguarding investigations in accordance with legislative requirements and safeguarding procedures as well as investigate complaints of alleged neglect and/or abuse of adults. Where there is unmanaged risk with no current solution, any service can escalate to either the Multi-Agency Solution Panel or the Exceptional Risk Forum.

Key Deliverable 3 – Look to develop a city centre commissioned Health and Wellbeing Centre for the homeless and people in need on the streets ~ Strengthen the work with grass roots organisations, moving from on street kitchens to indoor provision, including befriending and mentoring in neighbourhoods.

132. Across the system, partners and commissioners have been working more closely together and there are examples of pooled funding and aligning budgets.

Examples of enhanced provision include:

- a) Alignment of the contracts from the Integrated Care Board for Bevan Healthcare and Leeds City Council for St Anne's Resource Centre to enable the investment into a new Health and Wellbeing Centre for homeless people in the city centre. Architectural plans have been drawn up to redevelop the building and offer an extensive partnership service, including designing and shaping service provision with people with lived experience, from that initial relationship building and emergency aid (including food, clothing/footwear, shelter, healthcare), through individual advice, needs assessment and advocacy to tailored progression support which spans: crisis recovery; physical/mental health/wellbeing; life skills; literacy; numeracy employment support; welfare/benefits; tenancy and money management. The building is owned by St Annes Community Services and the redevelopment is now on hold because of the current financial climate.
- b) Leeds Street Support partnership has worked with grass roots charities through the Leeds Homeless Charter, to encourage them to move away from static and/or mobile on-street kitchens to an in-door kitchen provision. The narrative of treating people with dignity to a place they where they can be warm, get a shower, change of clothing if needed and have food, and seek the right support is now better understood. Currently four groups are providing an in-door evening meal to people in need as part of a more person-centred approach. Support in the community, to enable and sustain tenancies is offered by some of the grass roots organisations, and this is the intended direction of travel.

Key Deliverable 4 – Take forward the on-street sex working governance arrangements through the strategic Sex Working Board.

133. The on-street sex working governance has changed during the last 6 months with the SLE agreeing to subsume the work of the Strategic Sex Working Board into wider governance arrangements to reduce duplication. The issue of sexual exploitation now sits predominantly within the Violence Against Women and Girls Board as an issue which disproportionately impacts women and girls, whilst also maintaining a focus through the Modern Slavery Board as part of the prevention of slavery and trafficking. Work undertaken by the Strategic Sex Working Board in relation to health inequalities will be aligned to the People First Board which is in development to address the wider aspect of people living street-based lives who have complex needs.
134. There has been a steady but positive trajectory for some years now with regards to how the city responds to the complex issue of on-street sex work. The community safety partnership is committed to continuing to support women to be safer and healthier, and thereby reducing the prevalence of on-street sex working as well as addressing associated community concerns such as litter, and anti-social behaviour incidents. The partnership approach has further development over the last year and the numbers of sex workers in the area have not returned to the same level as seen prior to Covid. There remains a focus on tackling community concerns and supporting women who continue to sell sex on-street and the city partnership will continue to keep all matters under review.
135. The National Police Chief's Council has recently published national police guidance on sex work and Leeds is compliant and is seen as an example of best practice.
136. The Council continues to fund a dedicated policing response to minimise the adverse impact of sex-working and kerb-crawling concerns. (Total 4 Police Officers ~ WYP fund 2 and LCC fund 2 which is ringfenced to this work and only called to other duties in major critical incidents). This team's work extends the integrated partnership work to ensure that soliciting does not take place, and that where soliciting is seen or suspected, those engaging in this act are responded to in the most appropriate way. They are committed to ensuring that wherever possible, residents are not approached by people seeking to purchase sex. Issues of this nature are serious and dealt with accordingly and as such the police invest considerable time and effort to provide a visible deterrent to people looking to procure the services of sex workers, supported by the significant investment in local authority maintained and monitored CCTV. The partnership continues to encourage residents and businesses to make reports to either the dedicated line, 101 or in an emergency/where a crime is in progress, 999 and will respond accordingly.

Examples of enhanced provision include:

- a) Partnership delivery around on-street sex work has been strengthened over the period, including extending operational outreach and in reach work by a range of services as well joint working to enhance the safety and support of those who are involved in sex working and to access emergency and temporary accommodation, deliver physical and mental health provision, plus relevant drug, and other substance treatment.
- b) Learning from the Leeds Street Support work this year has been applied, and there has been an increase in the support offer and provision for the women. This includes improved access to female only emergency accommodation. In the last 12 months there have been 137 placements at the female only Somewhere Safe to Stay off-street accommodation, this involved 84 women accessing this provision, including supporting their 'move on' to alternative accommodation and supporting their emotional, health and wellbeing needs.
- c) A multi-agency response to exploitation through 'cuckooing' and 'trap houses' linked to drug supply has been progressed. The partnership has utilised legislation under the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act (section 8) to put in place a number of premises closure orders so that the victims can be safeguarded in their own homes. In addition, work is developing on policy and practice taking into consideration wider issues such as organised crime, county lines and modern slavery.

137. There remain significant challenges. Like all population groupings, those on the street, at risk of and/ or returning to rough sleeping and / or involved in sex work, are not homogenous, they are 'People First' with unique personal experiences, histories, and circumstances. Behind the figures there are many people who have turned their lives around, that what matters, and the added value partners bring, individual cases are spotlighted as part of the local communications.

Shared Priority 9: Violence and Sexual Crime

Year 1 Key Deliverable – Produce and implement a local Reducing Serious Violence Plan, including a focus on Youth Violence and deliver a programme of activity aligned to Violence Reduction Unit desired outcome.

Serious Violence Duty and Governance arrangements

138. The New Serious Violence Duty started in January 2023, with the Government seeking arrangements in place for January 2024. In alignment with the Government Guidance, to use existing structures, it was agreed at executive level that the West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Partnership become the partnership vehicle for delivering the Serious Violence duty. This approach was endorsed by the Home Office and concurs with other areas that have Violence Reduction Units. As a result, local authorities and wider statutory partners named in the duty have formed an Executive Group which oversees the development of the Serious Violence Strategy and the Needs assessment work. A recent progress check shows that West Yorkshire was progressing well. Additional resources for serious

violence were already allocated by the Home Office to the regional body and these will continue until 2025.

139. The Safer Leeds Executive will include this new area of work in future Community Safety Plans. During the next 12 months the Serious Violence and Serious Organised Crime Board will develop a local delivery plan for partnership activity to address serious violence, whilst recognising that much of this work is already contained in operational plans for Violence Against Women and Girls, Domestic Violence and Abuse and existing West Yorkshire funded violence reduction work.

Year 2 Key Deliverable - Develop a local strategy to address Violence against Women and Girls, in line with the forthcoming national strategy and local needs ~ establish a partnership development group to take forward and develop a co-ordinated city-wide approach.

140. The Leeds Violence Against Women and Girls Board has been meeting quarterly since October 2022, bringing a range of partners together to progress a co-ordinated and city-wide approach to tackling VAWG. Under the Board's strategic direction, a work programme is being delivered which is closely aligned to the West Yorkshire Mayor's Safety of Women and Girls strategy, whilst remaining responsive to local needs and priorities and cognisant of national strategy and funding opportunities. To support some of its priority areas, the Board has secured funding through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and the Safer Streets Fund.
141. The Safer Streets Fund 4 provided £96k of funding to deliver a 'Women's Night Safe Space' (WNSS) in the city centre from November 2022 to September 2023. By the end of this period a total of 57 sessions will have been delivered from the mobile unit, which is deployed to locations based on intelligence and demand. As of June 2023, 361 women have been supported by staff at the WNSS, including a medical practitioner, sessional outreach workers and female security staff. Women who are unwell, experiencing mental health crises or have become separated from friends have been provided with medical assistance, support in relation to domestic abuse and sexual assault, warm drinks, food, comfortable footwear, assistance with safe travel home and phone charging. A WNSS Co-ordinator was employed through this funding, who in addition to delivering the provision in the night-time economy (NTE), has worked with a range of NTE partners to raise awareness of violence against women and girls, deliver bespoke training to NTE staff and develop enhanced partnership responses.
142. The Safer Streets Fund 4 also provided £67k to fund 'Night Safe Marshals' in the NTE. Contracted by BACIL, the Night Safe Marshals operate during high demand evenings in the city centre, through to the early hours of the morning. The role of the Marshals is to identify and de-escalate a range of potential issues including violence and alcohol and drug related harm. Crucially, the Marshals are particularly alert to violence against women and girls and will intervene as early as possible where they become aware that a woman is at risk of, experiencing or has been a

victim of spiking, sexual harassment, sexual assault, or domestic abuse. The Marshals have intervened in a range of incidents to prevent harm and violence towards women; case studies include de-escalation of intimate-partner abuse with support provided to the female victim by the WNSS and signposting to specialist domestic abuse services, mental health crises including supporting a woman acting upon suicidal thoughts; and a lone woman being followed by unknown men who had been sighted throughout the evening behaving suspiciously, leading to the arrest of a potential perpetrator and the possible prevention of a serious crime.

143. Funding has also been accessed through the Safer Streets Fund 4 and USKPF to further enhance the 'Ask for Angela' initiative, with over 600 licensed venues now signed up to the scheme plus expansion to other premises such as leisure centres and the city train station.
144. UK Shared Prosperity Funding has recently been unlocked to deliver a Women and Girls Outreach Project over a two-year period (April 2023 – March 2025). Through this funding, there will be £146k of additional capital investment injected into planned public realm regeneration projects with the aim of making spaces safer and more accessible to women and girls. As of June 2023, £35k has been allocated to a new park installation based on research with teenage girls about what makes them feel safe in community parks. Further consultation with women and girls is currently underway in relation to Morley Station Gate.
145. Through the Women and Girls Outreach Project, funding has also been allocated to a study to assess the feasibility of a Leeds Women's Centre which would enable women and girls to access a range of gender-specific and trauma-informed services from one premise. There are currently approximately 50 women's centres in the UK providing information, advice, support, training, and education on issues including but not limited to violence, abuse, rights, and criminal justice. The feasibility study will be delivered by March 2024 after which there will be a pilot of this provision for six weeks in a 'pop-up' venue.
146. Education and male behaviour change has been identified as critical to tackling VAWG, through highlighting the experiences of women and girls and encouraging men and boys to be active upstanders. UKSPF funding will support the accreditation of the 'Switch onto Women's Safety' train the trainer programme, and delivery of the training to 100 men who will then be equipped to roll this out in community settings and workplaces by March 2024.
147. Finally, the UKSPF funding will support the continuation of the Women Friendly Leeds movement, which will include a series of local engagement events with 300+ women and girls on VAWG and safety issues, culminating in a 'call to action' event at the end of the project.

Protect

148. The Safer Leeds Partnership is continuing its work with the Counter Terrorism Unit as part of the North East Pilot, in preparation of the forthcoming new Protect Duty. A structured approach has been adopted, including a zoning exercise and risk assessing framework for Publicly Accessible Locations, to mitigate the threat of potential terrorist attacks. Leeds has identified nine separate zones across the city, and work is being progressed on detailing each of those zones to identify specific sites. The intention is to link into these locations as the legislation starts to unfold, to provide advice and guidance regarding the likely requirements. In line with due governance, the Silver and Bronze Groups continue to meet and consider the impact of current intelligence linked to terrorism and whether the city are best placed to deal with an incident.
149. The work around Publicly Accessible Locations has recently undergone an academic evaluation completed by Coventry University, which showed the concept has achieved its aim of bringing together agencies to work on the Counter Terrorism agenda in readiness for the legislation. The respective organisations knowledge, understanding and their role in mitigating potential risks and threats in preparation of the statutory requirements has been enhanced. This strength will aid future collaboration as there are likely to be changes to the current Terrorism Protection of Premises draft Bill (Martyn's Law). The draft Bill was recently reviewed by the Home Office Select Committee who have been critical in relation to the value of the Bill and the potential impact on smaller businesses. Consequently, there are likely to be changes to the Bill with a delay of its full implementation until late 2024.
150. The work locally continues and will follow the direction and purpose of the Bill, ensuring the city remains in the best position for the introduction of the legislation. This includes:
- Further refinement and development of structures and functions of protect & prepare delivery within the council.
 - Developing strategic and operational links with the local Resilience Forum with the intention of future joint working with the Interoperability Group.
 - Production and development of a communication strategy in line with emerging legislation and terrorism intelligence.
 - Recently 'Trauma Packs' have been secured for West Yorkshire and working with colleagues in the Counter Terrorism Unit & other blue light services, 34 packs will be positioned throughout the Leeds area.
151. CONTEST Gold meetings continue to be held quarterly overseeing the delivery of effective local partnership activity. An update of the Counter Terrorism Local Profile is provided as part of these meetings. To ensure synergy, a presentation was delivered to the CONTEST Gold Group, on the preparation work and internal communication will continue as the legislation begins to become clearer.

