

Appendix 1

Safer Leeds Annual Update

1. The Safer Leeds Executive (SLE) is required to produce a strategy in consultation with communities and partners to identify priorities. Following a broad consultation exercise, the Safer Stronger Communities Leeds Plan 2021 – 2024 was introduced setting out nine thematic shared priorities which have been collectively progressed during this timeframe by a range of cross council, third sector, and external partners represented on the Safer Leeds Executive (SLE).
2. The overarching purpose of 'Safer Leeds' is to bring together local partners to formulate and implement measures to tackle crime, disorder, and anti-social behaviour, and in doing so, building safer, stronger, resilient, and cohesive communities across the city and reduce the fear of crime. As with other large cities nationally, community safety across Leeds is an ever-changing landscape, and with unprecedented pressures on public sector funding, innovative and creative collaboration with a range of city-wide stakeholders and community groups are key to addressing city-wide and localised issues.
3. The Safer Leeds Performance and Intelligence Team assists the partnership to regularly review local, regional, and national data trends. An overview of crime trends for year ending April 2024 is set out at Appendix 2.
4. West Yorkshire Police (WYP) is a critical partner in the SLE, and our strong partnership arrangements are crucial to all aspects of achieving our shared priorities. Reflecting the significance of WYP role and influence in the partnership, a separate report will be provided from West Yorkshire Police.
5. We have continued 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 Leeds Plan 2021 – 2024 and its alignment to the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan 2021-24. Having these arrangements in place enhances our opportunities for effective outcomes and outputs linked to shared priorities at a local and regional level, and also maximises funding opportunities. Funding streams such as the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), Safer Streets Fund and the Mayor's Communities Fund enable us to optimise our work and support partners, including the Third Sector, on a range of themed priorities such as safeguarding the vulnerable, youth interventions/youth justice, Integrated Offender Management (IOM), anti-social behaviour, and tackling hate crime. A separate report of the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime will be provided.
6. Early intervention/prevention and problem-solving approaches are increasingly being utilised leading to stronger partnerships with the Third Sector in Leeds and links to other governance arrangements in the council, including the Neighbourhood Improvement Board. During the last year, a key development has been the introduction of community safety focussed 'Neighbourhood Improvement' plans which are steered by a dedicated multi-agency Problem Solving Team. These relationships are crucial, especially around our collaborative efforts to make neighbourhoods safer, as well as building increased social cohesion.
7. This report summarises key areas of work during the final phase of the current strategy and introduces work being done on developing a strategy refresh as part of our statutory requirements supported by a Leeds Community Safety Needs Assessment.

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

8. **ASB Board** - The Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Board continues to co-ordinate the strategic and tactical partnership response to increasing confidence in reporting ASB to services, reducing the likelihood of ASB incidents occurring through effective preventative work, responding effectively to reports received, and reducing the adverse impact of anti-social behaviour on individuals and families. It aims to ensure all the relevant authorities; third sector organisations and community groups are working towards making Leeds a safer place. The board is aligned to the principles of the ASB Strategy and the Safer Leeds Executive objectives and priorities. This ensures it delivers a balanced response to ASB in Leeds. The work of the Board is intelligence-led, based on up-to-date information, hot spot locations and ASB types. It combines both prevention, early intervention with enforcement tactics, through a collaborative approach. Updated terms of reference were circulated to board members in October 2023.
9. **ASB Problem Solving Team** – a key development this year was the introduction of a Problem-Solving Team using successfully secured funds from the WYCA. The funds have enabled the recruitment to a new role, Problem-Solving Manager who has a city-wide overview of high priority and emerging ASB areas and is overseeing the development of Problem-Solving plans focussed on people (perpetrator/victim) and places using the 'SARA' problem solving model.
10. The Problem-Solving Manager is collaborating closely with the Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team (LASBT), Capable Guardians, Mediation Team, LASBT Triage, Team Leodis and has started consulting with key partners to share intelligence, identify any emerging trends of crimes/ASB, develop processes for the Leeds district and identify good practice from elsewhere in the country. The Problem-Solving Manager is also developing working groups to develop plans to address certain issues.
11. The manager is identifying and consulting with key networks and stakeholders (both individual and group based) who act as Problem Solving Groups (PSGs) to develop a tactical picture of crime & ASB concerns and assist partnerships in high demand problematic areas. Problem solving is initially focused on the six priority wards: Gipton & Harehills, Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, Beeston & Holbeck, Killingbeck & Seacroft, Armley, Riverside & Hunslet, but there is flexibility to work within wards elsewhere where ASB/crime is emerging.
12. To support this work, the Problem-Solving Manager has been provided with the authority to deploy 10 temporary CCTV cameras and a quantity of target hardening products. Examples of where a PSG has successfully been implemented are:
 - Dewsbury Road PSG – has seen significant improvements in reports of criminality and anti-social behaviour. The group has come together to deliver intervention, prevention, and enforcement within the locality. Two weeks of action were undertaken which included: warrants executed in relation to drug supply, target hardening, liaison with local businesses to encourage reporting, premises closure orders and injunctions. Additionally, funding is

being explored to support interventions to tackle alcohol addiction and drug taking in the area. This work significantly improved community engagement/confidence and led to increased reporting to the Police/LASBT and a decrease in the number of trap houses in the area because of action taken. The PSG received messages of thanks from the community via the local ward members, specifically relating to the drug warrants and premises closure orders.

- Holbeck PSG - the group has concentrated on environmental issues, including the clearance of waste ground, improvements to lighting, and the clearance of bin yards. Due to the success in this locality, the PSG is moving to the Cottingley area where youth nuisance and ASB reports are increasing. The PSG will invite the Youth Service to join the group regarding intervention, prevention, and diversionary activities.

13. **ASB reporting to WYP** - comparing 2023/24 with the previous year, there has been a small reduction in the volume of anti-social behaviour incidents recorded by police in Leeds. There have been positive reductions in high volume dispositions, including youth related nuisance and nuisance motorcycles. There have been increases in lower volume dispositions including nuisance car/van.
14. **ASB LCC reporting** - Comparing 2023/24 with the previous year, there has been an increase in the volume of anti-social behaviour service requests recorded by Leeds City Council (CATS). During July 2023, Leeds engaged in ASB Awareness Week where we asked residents to report ASB. There is stability in high volume ASB categories including noise nuisance and abuse, intimidation, or harassment. There have been increases in the volume of service requests regarding neighbour disputes, drug or alcohol issues, vehicle-related nuisance, criminal behaviour, and threat or use of violence.
15. **Capable Guardian Service** – a Capable Guardian is defined as an object or person that deters crime from taking place. This follows the Routine Activity Theory that states, ‘a crime or an act of anti-social behaviour is likely to occur when three elements come together: i) an accessible target, ii) the absence of a Capable Guardian, iii) a motivated offender.
16. The Safer Stronger Communities Team has successfully secured funds from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and developed a project which will provide capable guardianship to key areas in the city to reduce ASB through intelligence led, high visibility patrols. The project will run until 31st March 2025 and will focus on the six priority wards, however there is flexibility to move to other locations where there is a demand.
17. The team consists of a Team Leader, Crime Reduction Officer and four high visibility Safer Street Liaison Officers who patrol in high visibility marked vehicles. The officers consult with key networks (individuals and groups) to develop a tactical picture of crime & ASB concerns, leading to the agile deployment of patrols. The Capable Guardians consult with key partners to share intelligence and deliver reductions in crime and ASB, including improvements to the physical environment to tackle place-based issues, fully engaging with Priority Neighbourhood Projects & Boards.

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.

18. **Young People** - significant activity has been undertaken during the year to ensure we are collaborating 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. As a partnership, our aim is not to criminalise young people but to ensure they are aware and understand the impact of bad behaviour resulting in ASB and crime. We are seeking to strengthen our response to the issues following the 3Es:
- Engage utilising every method available.
 - Educate with the relevant knowledge and skill set.
 - Enforce when it is clear to the partnership that boundaries need to be set.
19. We continue to work with all agencies involved with young people and their families on individual cases and support Multi Agency Criminal Exploitation (MACE) and encourage Case Officers to refer in both individuals and contextual situations affecting young people. We are active members at the area based serious youth violence meetings and Risk Management Panel's ensuring earlier intervention. When referring young people to agencies and services for additional support, issues often arise around consent and unfortunately some of the young people are often disengaged and unlikely to agree with some statutory requirements.
20. **Hotspots for ASB** - the majority of the hot spot locations identified relate to poor behaviour by young people. The transfer of Leeds Youth Service into the Safer Stronger Communities Team has facilitated closer working partnerships between the police, LASBT and Youth Services, enabling joint early intervention and preventative measures to be improved. Examples of successful joint work include:
- diversionary activities aimed at young people in hotspot areas known for ASB/public order during the Halloween/Bonfire period i.e., Harehills, Burley, Beeston
 - engaging young people in the Halton Moor area to access activities provided by Youth Services, Youth Association and Leeds United. LASBT made families aware of the programmes and helped with referrals.
 - targeted work aimed at young people causing issues at Seacroft Shopping Centre and at Rein Park, Seacroft was led by a multi-agency group jointly run by NPT & LASBT to collaborate with landowners, shops, security, and Metro to address youth ASB in Seacroft Shopping Centre
 - responding to a number of reports which were received around young people in the city centre entering derelict buildings and multi storey car parks. Timely joint site visits and preventative work were carried out by National Car Parks (NCP), youth services and LASBT to deliver interventions, undertake target hardening measures and to prevent harm.

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.

21. **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 which has been created to address the more complex ASB issues which impact on LCC tenants, either directly or indirectly. 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.

22. The team was recently deployed to the Burmantofts area of Leeds following reports of ASB within the communal areas of numerous tower blocks; 15 Closure Order applications were submitted to the Legal team to run partial closure orders on tower blocks in the area. In addition to the criminal investigation, detailed intelligence packs were developed for 10 of the nominals linked to drug dealing/urban street gangs. Activity by LASBT was embedded in the area and support was provided for vulnerable adults in potential 'cuckooed' addresses. Action to address the issues included working alongside the Capable Guardians, the installation of temporary CCTV cameras and Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO) applications.
23. **Cuckooing** - Multi Agency Groups are being set up across the district following the success of work done in Leeds in pilot areas; this work has been recognised at a national level.
24. **Neighbourhood Improvement Partnerships (NIPs)** – In 2023/24, Leeds introduced the Neighbourhood Improvement Partnership (NIP), a model which has been recognised by other police forces and local authorities as a concise and clear model to use to support long term problem solving and address high levels of ASB within a community. This approach can be closely aligned to the 'Clear, Hold, Build' model which seeks to tackle organised crime groups (OCGs), build community resilience, and make neighbourhoods safer. The NIP model has successfully been implemented in the following areas:
 - Halton Moor NIP - is now into the third year of the partnership plan which has been a success in bringing together various partners together to reduce ASB and increase confidence within the community. This was the first location to use the model and is seen as best practice across the country. It has documented significant successes including reducing ASB over the Halloween/Bonfire period through partnership work involving WYFRS, LASBT, NPT, Youth Services, Youth Association and Leeds Utd Foundation.
 - Harehills - is currently part of a larger community involved problem-solving plan under the leadership of West Yorkshire Police using the 'Clear, Hold, Build' strategy model which is having remarkable success in dismantling organised crime groups in the area in collaboration with LASBT, Licensing, Private Rented Sector Team, and Localities. Emerging from this model, a new Gipton & Harehills NIP will emerge in the coming months.
 - Pudsey – a partnership has been developed to focus on young people on the cusp of committing ASB and crime. These are led by the Children's Services Cluster, with LASBT as co-chairs where on a case-by-case basis, we intervene with partners where ASB is a concern using a range of tools and powers e.g., Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs), Anti-Social Behaviour Injunctions (ASBIs) and injunction work where escalation is identified.
 - Little London - A partnership group to tackle issues relating to drug use/rough sleeping/ASB in a number of inner-city tower blocks has been established, and community engagement interactions have taken place with approximately 600 households. Included in this partnership is the Engaged Street Outreach Team that carry out 'block sweeps', Capable Guardian for passing attention, and partnership work continues between LASBT, Housing and the NPT.
25. **Otley Run Multi Agency Partnership Group** - the Otley Run is organised by individuals and is a nationally recognised event attracting hundreds of people from across the UK each week.

Although no actionable complaints have been received, we are being responsive to local concerns being expressed by residents and businesses in other forums e.g., to local councillors. Bi-monthly partnership meetings are held to jointly respond to the issues, and membership of the group now includes: LASBT, NPT, WYP Licensing, LCC Licensing, LCC Cleaner Neighbourhoods, LCC Environmental Protection, LCC Communities, LCC Town Centre Management, Local Cllrs (Headingley and Hyde Park, Little London, and Woodhouse, Weetwood). Interactions with licensed premises over time have been positive and outcomes have included tactical responses, coordinated partnership operations and the development of a communication strategy to ensure that members and MPs are fully briefed. During May 2024, a series of partnership action days were held to address issues that occur in spring/summer which was used as an opportunity to re-visit messaging and signage around the PSPO in the area. Results were shared with local councillors and the local community.

26. **Northwest Leeds PSPO** - The positive impact of this work has led to the review and renewal of the Northwest Leeds PSPO, partnership days, and intelligence-led multi-agency operational planning. An element of this partnership work is LASBT Officers and colleagues from West Yorkshire Police pro-actively engaging with Otley Run premises and participants to educate them about the terms of the PSPO. The engagement is 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 (FPN) 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. Since implementation in July 2023, there have been 10 FPNs produced relating to breach of the NW Leeds PSPO, all of which relate solely to public urination issues.
27. **Domestic Noise related ASB** - a disproportionately high volume of the city's domestic noise complaints relates to the conduct of students. Working in a collaborative partnership response with the two main universities in Leeds, we have developed a dedicated response focussed predominantly in areas 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:
- 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.
 - For fiscal year 2023/4 the service has received 1932 calls which is a further reduction of 50.8% on the previous year
 - 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%.
 - For fiscal year 2023/4 call back time has been lowered further to an average of 11 minutes, which is a reduction of 3 minutes on average.
 - A reduction of 16 minutes average officer response time (from call to door) from 2021/22 to 2022/23.
 - For fiscal year 2023/4 the average officer response time (from call to door) has remained the same as previous fiscal year (34 minutes), maintaining the 16 minutes average reduction.
28. The current agreement with the universities ends in July 2024; negotiations are ongoing as regards to the continuation of the service beyond this time, however, implementation of this service has led to significant reductions in noise complaints, behavioural change and statutory

nuisance witnessed. Also, the introduction of a 'Capable Guardian' in the area has led to a significant reduction in key crime.

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.

29. **Policy, Procedures and Processes** - The government's ASB action plan 2023/24 had proposed changes to the ASB crime and Policing Act 2014; these changes were to be driven by the Criminal Justice Bill 2023/24.
30. The Housing Ombudsman and Housing regulator also undertook a full review in 2023/24 of how they expect social landlords will deal with both domestic noise and ASB. We had identified all the reviews and the changes that would impact on our current policies, procedures and working practices. To mitigate any risks, we have been reviewing all the authorities' relevant policies and procedures relating to domestic noise and ASB. This is a detailed piece of work and did requires us to await certain changes within the Criminal Justice Bill 2023/24. However, the government called the General Election and failed to complete the Criminal Justice Bill. It is unsure if this will be adopted/renewed following the General Election.
31. We are continuing with the reviews as we are still required to do this due to the Ombudsman recommendations and the housing regulators assessment. There is a delivery plan with an anticipated completion date of October 2024. Whilst we are undertaking our reviews, we have delivered an interim service offer that sets out our response to victims/customers of noise nuisance and ASB in our communities to ensure consistency across the ASB services.
32. **Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) City Wide Vehicle Nuisance** - the city-wide PSPO was introduced in April 2023 and is one element of the wider strategy to engage and educate drivers/riders misusing different types of vehicles. Enforcement is the last option so as not to criminalise where it is not appropriate. There have been issues in four areas across the district relating to "cruise events" where car drivers meet to race, play loud music, and cause a nuisance. The PSPO is enforced by our police colleagues due to the requirements set out in the current legislation.
33. To address issues at the King Lane Park and Ride Scheme in Moortown, PSPO signage was displayed and the local NPT/LASBT issued warning letters, advising of the Order and the implications of breaching this being a criminal offence; this resolved the issue. Similarly, at a car park location close to Elland Road, we installed a temporary CCTV camera, which has had the desired effect in resolving the issue. However, some drivers were not as receptive to the warning and subsequently we have issued 20 Fixed Penalty Notices to drivers.
34. **Misuse of Motor vehicles ~ city wide strategy** – we anticipate that this strategy will be submitted to the ASB Board in August 2024. The strategy will seek to provide a long-term solution to the misuse of motor vehicles, seeking new and innovative ways of responding to the issues. This is a complex strategy to produce as it needs to take cognisance of the introduction of new vehicle types, changes to legislation and existing policies that will require reviewing within each partnership.

35. **Misuse of motorcycles and quads** - in 2023, Leeds District secured funding to introduce a proactive, sergeant-led off-road motorcycle team which is supported by six PCSOs. Three more police officers will be joining the team who are all trained in initial phase pursuit and use of the stinger device. The team is continuing to develop their tactics and is achieving impressive results. Activity includes action days using bespoke signage and leaflets to raise awareness and promote more accurate reporting by members of the public so that offenders can be identified.
36. The PCSO's also patrol the hotspot areas, obtaining information from residents and members of the public to aid the intelligence picture of who is offending. They conduct crime prevention events, attend community meetings and work closely with NPT colleagues as well as roads policing, LASBT and LeedsWatch. They analyse data daily such as calls to service and review any bike related intelligence to identify hotspot areas for patrols and identify the top fifteen nominals (five per area, broken down into the South, East and West) and actively target these nominals with disruption visits, arrests, housing visits and civil orders to restrict their offending.
37. As a result of this pro-active work, there was a reduction in Theft of Motorcycle (TOMC) offences from 2022 to 2023 of 22% and over the same period, a 15% reduction of motorcycle related ASB. So far in 2024, TOMC offences are continuing to reduce in comparison with 2023; ASB calls appear to be on par with last year's figures, however the public is being actively encouraged to call West Yorkshire Police regarding any anti-social bike related incidents, so an increase in calls is expected during this current year.

Shared Priority 2 - Domestic Violence and Abuse

38. The Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board oversees the partnership working for domestic violence and abuse reporting to the Safer Leeds Executive. The partnership leads on the consultation arrangements for developing domestic violence and abuse support in safe accommodation, strategy development, workforce development and ensuring our front door safeguarding arrangements appertaining to domestic violence and abuse remain effective. The partnership includes the voice of victim/survivors in terms of shaping strategy and policy and there is lived experience representation (supported by third sector partners) at various board meetings.

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.

39. The Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board has launched the Domestic Violence and Abuse Strategy for 2023-28. It sets out the overall vision to end the harm caused by this issue and 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.

40. 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.
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. The Sanctuary Support Team (SST) has been providing 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. A full needs assessment for Support in Safe Accommodation was carried out in 2021 and this informed the commissioning of services. This needs assessment has been refreshed annually, with a full needs assessment to be carried out every three years which will be presented at a future Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board.
43. The strategic links between housing and domestic violence and abuse continue to develop. 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. Housing representatives continue to attend case reviews, staff participate in the DVA workforce development offer and white ribbon campaign activities and local housing offices have nominated DVA ambassadors.

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.

44. The role of the Domestic Violence Co-ordinators (delivered by Behind Closed Doors) within the Early Help Hubs continues 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 and has been agreed to be delivered until 2025.
45. Leeds Women's Aid has continued to deliver 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 is on-going with funding having 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. Alongside West Yorkshire Police, we are exploring IT based solutions to improve the process of notifications so they can be made directly to schools and further education establishments through a fully automated process.

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. 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.
49. 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.
50. Alongside the Mayor’s office, Leeds Domestic Violence and Safeguarding team are supporting a West Yorkshire wide piece of work to review perpetrator interventions and create a repository of services and ensure that national funding opportunities to improve responses to perpetrators are identified.

Additional Areas of work include:

51. **Workforce Development** - 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.
52. The modular approach completed its first full year and **2,107** training places have been delivered to practitioners across Leeds. There are four modules available to professionals, 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.

53. **Victim-Survivor Engagement** - 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.
54. **Non-Fatal Strangulation (NFS)** - Non-Fatal Strangulation (NFS) was made a specific offence as part of the Domestic Abuse Act 2022. It came into force on 9th June 2022 and as of September 2022, this board established a task and finish group involving a range of partners to ensure that the workforce can recognise the signs and indicators of non-fatal strangulation and to develop pathways to ensure a holistic response to the victim.
55. The group has made good progress in achieving those aims. The group has also been sighted on national developments and has aligned its activity with that of national bodies who are also providing guidance in this area. At the outset, the group was clear that there was a need for guidance locally to identify and mitigate the risk of this offence. Specific NFS sessions have been created and delivered in partnership on this topic, with over 200 participants booked on for each of the four briefings.
56. **DVA Practitioners Forum** - the Domestic Abuse Practitioners Forum is a newly established, quarterly forum for front-line practitioners in Leeds. The aim of the forum is to provide a space for peer support and learning for front-line workers, but also act as a feedback mechanism to DAVA. The first in-person DA Practitioners Forum took place in February 2024 at St George's Conference Centre. It was well attended by front-line practitioners from a range of services across Leeds. Following the forum, the challenges raised by professionals were compiled and presented to DAVA creating an on-going feedback mechanism.
57. **Front Door Safeguarding Hub** - 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 2023 to March 2024 these arrangements have supported 4672 victims with safety plans.

Shared Priority 3 - Hate Crime

58. 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.

59. 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 allows schools and learning settings to report hate incident/crimes and is reported to the HCSB on a regular basis. The form used by schools was updated in September 2023 to better reflect the information and data that would be most useful for Children and Families and HCSB to review. From April 23 – March 24, 279 reports were made in total by schools. The majority of these were for race-based hate followed by LGBT+ related hate. Colleagues in Children and Families have produced further analysis on the data.
60. 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. Between September 2023 – March 2024 all existing reporting centres and some new centres have received up to date training delivered by Stop Hate UK with inputs from the Leeds City Council LASBT and West Yorkshire Police. 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. New centres include Trans Leeds and Together Women. A Third-Party Reporting network has been established as well as a mechanism for reporting centres to track the number of reports they are taking.
61. Third Party Hate Signposting Centres have also been launched in addition to the reporting centres. The role of third-party signposting centres is 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. A dedicated page on leeds.gov for hate crime has been updated with all the information on reporting and signposting centres and can be found [here](#).
62. A new model of performance reporting was put in place with colleagues in the Performance and Intelligence team with a focus on outcomes and the opportunity to highlight data on particular groups throughout the year as requested by Hate Crime Strategic Board who receive reports quarterly. In 2023, LGBT+ hate crime was the focus for Hate Crime Awareness Week. Trans People Awareness training was delivered by West Yorkshire Police and public engagements were carried out jointly with the Angels of Freedom community group. Increasing the focus on this strand has been highlighted as a priority for the Hate Crime Strategic Board and Elected Members over the last year.

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.

63. The HCSB coordinated Leeds' response to the National Hate Crime Awareness Week (HCAW) and a programme of activity across the partnership was scheduled. A series of training sessions and events were organised between 14th – 21st October 2023. The week

launched with an event focusing on LGBT+ related hate crime whilst other activities included training on anti-Semitism by the Community Security Trust, a session with the Leeds Migrant Access Project focusing on sharing information with migrant communities about what a hate crime is and how to report it. The launch event for HCAW 2024 will focus on the response to race hate.

64. The HCSB continued to progress actions based on findings and recommendations from the Islamophobia survey carried out by Leeds City Council in 2020. 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 work alongside a community reference group which was established in July 2023 which gives a voice to the community as well as check and challenge any work that is being progressed. Progress over the last year on the Anti-Muslim Prejudice action plan includes raising awareness through a 'Fasting in Solidarity' campaign during Ramadan in March 2024 and the organisation of a series of events and training sessions during Islamophobia Awareness Month in November 2023.
65. A Conference on Anti-Semitism and Anti-Muslim Prejudices was organised in December 2023 to focus work on both forms of hatred with a range of speakers and workshop activity. 120 people attended the Conference. Although it was organised before the latest outburst of the conflict in the Middle East, the recent rise in Anti-Semitism and Anti-Muslim prejudice in Leeds as result of what is taking place meant the event was an important way to bring together Muslim and Jewish communities at what is a sensitive time. Feedback from the attendees has been circulated including suggestions for how both forms of hatred are addressed.
66. Important conversations have taken place in HCSB and Hate Crime Operational Group meetings about the rise in both Anti-Semitism and Anti-Muslim prejudice and how the city can best respond. Tell Mama and CST regularly attend the meetings and give an accurate picture of the hatred and discrimination that both communities are currently experiencing. Work taken place to date by the Safer Stronger Communities team includes supporting/managing a large number of vigils and demonstrations; meeting with Jewish and Muslim community leaders and organisations; working through a wide range of controversial issues such as the flying of flags and lighting buildings; messages to staff and communities from the council; providing support and guidance to schools; responding to issues with graffiti.
67. Initial conversations have taken place about including Anti-Semitism in the existing Anti-Muslim Prejudice working group so the group can look at both issues jointly. In addition, an Anti-Semitism Community Reference Group will be established similar to the existing Anti-Muslim Prejudice CRG later in 2024.
68. 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.

69. 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. A process for Leeds City Council was agreed by HCSB in February 2024 and joint ASB/Hate review meetings have started to take place with colleagues from the Safer Stronger Communities team and West Yorkshire Police.
70. If a hate related case is reviewed under this process and there are significant blockages 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 and will be taken to the HCSB for agreement.
71. Following recruitment, West Yorkshire Police now has seven Hate Crime Co-ordinators. A new Hate Crime Officer will also be recruited by the Safer Stronger Communities Team during 2024.

Shared Priority 4 - Illicit Drugs, Substance Use and Alcohol

72. The Leeds Drug and Alcohol Partnership (LDAP), established in 2022 provides strong strategic leadership and supports effective partnership working around drugs and alcohol in Leeds. The Partnership spans health, community safety, criminal justice, housing, and relevant voluntary and community sector organisations.
73. The Leeds Drug and Alcohol Strategy and Action Plan is currently being updated. It sets out the city’s plans for addressing the harms caused by drug and alcohol use. It is informed by the ambitions and challenges of the Government’s latest drug and alcohol strategies, as well as local ambitions to deliver the Safer Leeds Community Safety Strategy, Leeds Health and Wellbeing Strategy, Best Council Plan and Leeds Health and Care Plan. The action plan has four overarching outcomes:
 - Fewer people misuse drugs and/or alcohol and where people do use, they make better, safer, and informed choices.
 - Increase the proportion of people recovering from drug and/or alcohol misuse.
 - Reduce crime and disorder associated with drug and/or alcohol misuse.
 - Reduce the impact of harm from drugs and alcohol on children, young people, and families.
74. A wide range of services and organisations, across the city, have been consulted on the draft (which is due to be published later this year), in addition to the Drug and Alcohol Partnership, its subgroups, and various other relevant Boards and groups.

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.*

75. **Supplemental Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery Grant** -Following the publication of the national Drug Strategy, From Harm to Hope, the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) announced that local authorities would receive a Supplemental Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery Grant, over three years (2022-25). Leeds was awarded £2.6m in 2022-23, increasing to £4.3m in 2023-24 and £8.2m in 2024/25. The grant has been used to fund a significant number of posts in Forward Leeds – to improve, increase and enhance drug and alcohol treatment provision in the city – as well as posts in other services, including St Anne’s Alcohol Services, the Integrated Offender Management service, the Family Drug and Alcohol Court, West Yorkshire Police, and Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust.
76. **Forward Leeds** - remains one of only a handful of drug and alcohol services in the country to be rated ‘outstanding’ by the Care Quality Commission, with excellent treatment outcomes and 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, and 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.
- 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.*
77. **Continuity of Care** - there is a national ambition to improve the rate of engagement in community substance misuse services among people leaving prison. In Leeds, a new team has been created to support people leaving prison or who are subject to an Alcohol Treatment Requirement or Drug Rehabilitation Requirement. In addition, there are dedicated sessions, every weekday, in each of the service’s hubs, that prison leavers can attend if they don’t have, or have missed, an appointment. Forward Leeds is also working with the nearest prisons to increase pre-release engagement, improve information sharing between the prison and the service about treatment provided and ongoing needs, and track referrals. As a result, the continuity of care engagement rate is now 28% higher than it was in March 2022, with virtually everyone starting treatment unless returning to custody.
78. The Probation Service has also developed the Dependency and Recovery Grant programme, to provide additional support for people on probation. The allocation for Leeds is £236,000 in 2024/25, to fund an administrator, prescriber, recovery co-ordinator and group worker in the Forward Leeds Criminal Justice Team. The administrator and prescriber roles in particular have proved to be incredibly valuable, increasing engagement with people leaving prison and to manage the demand created by the End of Custody Supervised Licence (ECSL), whereby people are being released early to reduce pressures on the prison population.
79. **Naloxone in Criminal Justice Settings** - West Yorkshire Police is currently running a naloxone pilot in Leeds and Wakefield. Naloxone is a medicine that rapidly reverses an opioid overdose. Over the last few months, police officers in Leeds have been trained in overdose awareness and naloxone administration by Forward Leeds, who are also providing them with nasal spray naloxone kits. Trained police officers will be carrying naloxone from July 2024. Leeds Probation staff have also been trained in overdose awareness and naloxone administration.

80. **Buvidal Programme** - the Buvidal Programme (a medicine used to treat dependence on opioid (narcotic) drugs such as heroin or morphine) has recently expanded. In addition to being offered to people who are rough sleepers (25 places) and sex workers (10 places), it is now also available as part of a detoxification pathway (20 places) and complex needs pathway (20 places), which includes those already on Buvidal when released from prison. Those participating also receive medical, social, and psychological support. 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 have been published.
81. **Drug and Alcohol Sex Work Team** - Funding has been secured via the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) to create a newly funded 'Specialised Drug and Alcohol Sex Worker Team (Forward Leeds)'. This will aid harm reduction practice and improve access into and retention with drug treatment. Including in this is a specific budget for inpatient detox and rehabilitation for individuals engaged. The team will offer innovative, flexible, and trauma-informed support to sex workers through an assertive high support/ high challenge outreach-based model and collaborate with existing service providers, law enforcement, and healthcare services to remove barriers to treatment and reduce substance-related harms. This will start in the mid-summer of 2024.
82. **High Impact High Dependency Project** - Now funded by the Supplemental Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery Grant, Touchstone continues to deliver the 'High Impact High Dependency' project. In Harehills, two sessions per week are held at the Meeting Point Café, providing support, and onward referral into treatment, for street drinkers. Since it started, 234 individuals have attended, with 744 visits in total between April 2023 and March 2024. The majority of attendees have changed their drinking behaviour and reported increased confidence and self-worth. Of these, five individuals have been referred to Forward Leeds, with a further nine re-engaging with the service. Two individuals have entered rehab, with 14 having been referred to other services. Overall, the number of daytime street drinkers in Harehills appears to have declined, according to the weekly outreach session and feedback from local residents.
83. **Campaigns** - 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). A group of volunteers, in this age group, contribute content including blogs and social media, etc. the campaign worked in collaboration with the Bold AF Events, to put on a Christmas Party with No Regrets – an alcohol-free Christmas party at a city centre bar. The event was well attended and featured on BBC Look North.
84. **Alcohol licencing** - Leeds has several Cumulative Impact Assessments (CIA). These are in place because there is significant concern and risk about the impact of the promotion of the licencing objectives have on the population. This can be due to the number of licences in the area. As part of the 'Clear, Hold, Build' strategy, effective multi-disciplinary partnership work has supported the largest CIA in the city (Harehills). As a result, since autumn 2023:
- 16 reviews have been submitted for 14 separate premises.
 - 6 premises have had their licenses revoked (*cannot sell alcohol*)
 - 2 Revocations have been suspended pending ongoing appeal (*can sell alcohol pending outcome of appeal*)
 - 2 Revocations are pending the appeal period (*can sell alcohol pending this period expiring or any appeal being submitted*)

- 1 Licence has been suspended.
- 3 licences continue, but with additional stringent conditions (although 2 of these are now facing additional upcoming reviews).

85. The CIA for Leeds City Centre was published in January 2024. This compliments the significant amount of work that has gone into improving the street and venue scene, connecting the collaborative work directed through the Safer Leeds: City Centre Partnership Board, under the umbrella of #DaySafeLeeds and #NightSafeLeeds.

Shared Priority 5 - Offending Behaviours

86. The Reducing Reoffending Board (RROB) is now well established and has a strong collaborative approach between all partners. The RROB is continuing to work through the Leeds Reducing Reoffending Delivery Plan which is a 3-year plan aligned to the Yorkshire and the Humber Ministry of Justice (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.

87. The Leeds Reducing Reoffending Delivery Plan 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. The main areas of focus for the Reducing Reoffending Board are the following pathways:

88. **Accommodation** - the main work of the group is to address issues in ensuring access to accommodation and support for offenders on prison release or in the community, provide a forum for discussion of operational problems and improve pathways and communication between partners. Some recent examples of this are conversations around the CAS3 Probation accommodation, how this works, its remit and where people should move on from this. (CAS3 is a project which provides accommodation to People on Probation at risk of being homeless upon being released from prison or as part of their resettlement and moved-on from an Approved Premises).

89. There is now a better understanding of CAS3 and how we can help ensure the right people go in and have realistic move on options. Over the past year we have also improved the link between Housing Options and Prisons, staff now attend the 'Market Place' assessment sessions to see customers, we also now have a dedicated phone line into Housing Options for Probation and HMP Leeds staff use. Following the Housing Offenders Group (HOG), separate meetings have been set up between Commissioners, Housing Options and Probation to discuss Registered Sex Offenders who are in our commissioned services (we have around 11 currently, maximum of 3 per project). This monthly meeting is useful to exchange information and agree timely options for individual cases. Another success was

HMP Leeds colleagues setting up a HOG Teams channel, we can share information between members quickly.

90. **Education, Training and Employment (ETE)** - The ETE workstream has been identifying/addressing issues and barriers in the partnership in relation to accessing and maintaining contact with the ETE provision across the area. The formation of the workstream has brought partners together with a shared agenda to best use services and resources and create a greater understanding of ETE support and information available across Leeds. The workstream has been developing and growing opportunities for those with lived experience to support people on Probation with employment opportunities, improve communication pathways and information sharing, simplifying referral routes and is seeking to share innovative developments across Leeds and the scoping of ETE provision with partners. The processes being used at HMP Leeds are providing a better transition for prison leavers and provide a more secure financial footing. Money Buddies help with completing benefit claim forms (by appointment) as well as delivering support around debts. The Leeds Employer and Partnerships Team is working on 'place-based plans' which look at the specific needs of each area, working on running community events alongside other organisations and increasing access to support from multiple organisations in one place.
91. **Finance, Benefit and Debt (FDB)** - the FDB 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 the referral process, create a greater understanding of support and information available across Leeds and improve 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.
92. **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 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. This workstream will continue to support the development of new pre-release pathways.
93. **Women** - the female pathway has been removed as a subgroup in the Leeds RROB and is now part of the West Yorkshire Reducing Reoffending Board workstreams as all partners are involved in these workstreams.
94. **Health and Justice** – the new workstream is developing well with the aim of strengthening and developing the interface for Criminal Justice pathways across all partner services, with a specific focus on neurodiversity, mental health, substance misuse.

Shared Priority 6: Organised Crime and Street Gangs

95. The Serious Violence and Serious Organised Crime (SVSOC) Partnership Board continues to lead this area of delivery on behalf of the Safer Leeds Executive and has a specific focus on serious youth violence which continues to be a significant serious organised crime (SOC) threat across Leeds. The partnership arrangements and commitment to delivering the Serious Violence Duty has been significantly strengthened and is now supported through the newly established architecture and governance arrangements. We continue to work alongside the West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP). More recently, we have worked with the Health and Wellbeing Board strategic leaders and held two workshops with key stakeholders to identify further opportunities through the Serious Violence Duty for reducing serious youth violence. We continue to work alongside other boards such as the Leeds Childrens Safeguarding Partnership, Youth Justice Board and Drugs and Alcohol Board on this cross-cutting issue.

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)

96. The Serious Organised Crime Disruption Delivery Partnership meets on a six-weekly cycle, concentrating on places and people. Gipton and Harehills has consistently remained the highest ward area for Crime Severity.
97. **Clear Hold Build** - within the Harehills area of East Leeds, there is an intensive police and partnership initiative following approved good practice nationally running seeking to work across three districts but linked areas of focus 'Clear, Hold, Build' (CHB). This initiative is targeting organised crime and cannabis supply and related violent crime in Leeds. The initiative has been running for approximately six months and has made significant progress in dismantling the networks of organised crime causing harm to communities. The partnership response to target properties within East Leeds has included additional temporary CCTV within locations that have previously been a blind spot to help communities feel safer, warrants issued, closure orders on properties and referrals made to social care, Youth Justice Service and CVET for juveniles identified. The CHB work in Harehills has had a notable impact in the severity of violent offences in the area. Initial statistics emerging from the CHB work this work are:
- All crime reduction 40% (Force average 12.8%)
 - MSV reduction 59% (Force average 8.1%)
 - Crime severity reduction 44%
 - Weapons offence reduction 46%
98. A Focus Task Group is being established which will target one street at a time for a short, intensive period which will include the clearance of gardens, waste enforcement, tenancy enforcement, Capable Guardian engagement with businesses and residents and joint visits to residents to bolster community resilience. By identifying one street collectively, we can have

a significant impact in a short space of time and create longer-term improvements for that location.

99. **Vehicle Public Space Protection Order (PSPO)** – is now in place across the city to moderate behaviour related to vehicle nuisance, which will disrupt those committing crimes linked to organised crime across the city. Work is ongoing to refresh the PSPO in Armley and discussions are taking place surrounding the prohibition to ensure that it has the most effect. Disruption work has been carried out in Pudsey regarding a shop selling vapes to underage children; this resulted in a closure notice which will help disrupt the behaviour as word spreads.
100. There are ongoing issues around trap houses (properties where drugs are being sold), links to Urban Street Gangs and Organised Crime Gangs activity linked to a number of properties being used as cannabis farms. Work is underway to engage with landlords and prosecute; this is an issue which can be addressed by the Problem-Solving Groups.
101. **Operation Bronzestoke** – is a team which has Serious Youth Violence at the heart of their work. They have conducted extensive work in relation to the USGs in Leeds District, working with partners through Project Shield ensuring that all interventions are considered whether that be through investigative interventions and control measures or through support and / or diversionary work utilising partner services. They are now a definitive team who operate under our Precision banner. Following the introduction of Project Shield, they have been renamed Precision Organised Crime Team – Serious Youth Violence.
102. **Operation Jemlock (West Yorkshire VRU funded)** - Since 1st of April 2023, Operation Jemlock have patrolled 14 Serious Violent Crime Hotspots across Leeds, 7 days a week. These patrols have led to 981 stop and searches, 442 arrests and 102 weapons recovered and 1630 intelligence submissions. 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.
103. For 2024/25, Operation Jemlock will deploy to both serious violence and ASB hotspots. As part of a grant agreement, hotspot response should be embedded into the neighbourhood patrol teams and deployed to. There are four hotspots that Op Jemlock officers deploy to (a combination of single and clustered hotspots). Separately, there are 92 single hotspots which are covered by Leeds Neighbourhood Policing Team officer deployments.
104. **Leeds Hotspot Crimes** - in 2022/23 there 10379 crimes in the hotspots, 27.47% fell into the GRIP funding definition of serious violent crime, compared to 2023/24 there were 10115 crimes, of which 24.87% fell into the GRIP funding definition of SVC; a reduction of -2.5%, - 264 less victims.
105. **Leeds Hotspot Incidents** – during 2023/24 there were 14699 incidents which is a reduction of -13.5% (2302 less incidents) compared to 17001 incidents during 2022/23.

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.

106. **Project Shield Serious Youth Violence Daily Meeting** - in February 2024, we introduced a daily meeting with key stakeholders chaired by the new Serious Youth Violence Sergeant. The purpose of the Serious Youth Violence Daily Meeting is to review the previous 24 /48 hours crime activity and intelligence in relation to serious youth violence. This process includes young people up to the age of 18 and looked after children up to the age of 21, with a specific focus on partners sharing information and assessing risk for those young people involved in serious youth violence whether a victim, perpetrator, or witness with the aim of ensuring there is an appropriate safeguarding response in place and signposting to appropriate interventions.
107. **Serious Youth Violence Area Meetings (Locality)** - the three area youth violence meetings were launched in Sept 2023 where protective partners (including commissioned third sector organisations) work alongside Children's Services Social Care and West Yorkshire Police to explore additional interventions and protective actions to reduce serious violence risk. We have continued to bring key partners together to review progress every six weeks, to sharing learning and make adjustments. The meetings are chaired by West Yorkshire Police and continue to be well attended; our core membership has been extended with more partners becoming involved. The meetings are proving beneficial particularly with the increased sharing of information and intelligence which enables better risk assessments and a more integrated community approach that is supporting young people to engage in positive activities.
108. **Knife Angel ~ February Intensification Month** - as part of a partnership intensification month to tackle knife crime and serious youth violence, the Knife Angel was brought to Leeds in February 2024 and was located at the Royal Armouries. Throughout the month, partners delivered a diverse amount of additionality focused on serious youth violence, with a significant commitment from statutory and non-statutory partners some of the key highlights were:
- targeted inputs to 22 schools at the Royal Armouries using the Round Midnight Virtual Reality (VR) technology. This has been delivered to 312 young people who have all been identified as being at risk or involved with Serious Youth Violence.
 - universal inputs to secondary schools across the city, all 44 secondary schools in Leeds have been offered either year group knife crime assemblies, targeted group work or access to a bespoke presentation prepared by our Education Liaison Officer. These inputs have been delivered by our Safer Schools Officers and where a high school does not have an SSO, delivered by the Early Action PCs who are co-located in the Early Help Hubs. Every secondary school across the city received inputs on Serious Youth Violence delivered by Early Help Officers or Safer Schools Officers during this month. We estimate that over 5000 secondary school aged young people have received this input and as an example, on one day alone, 900 children received this input in one school.
 - the Leeds Youth Engagement PCSO has focused primarily on Primary Schools targeting year 6 in over 50 schools. An appropriate age-related knife crime presentation has therefore been delivered to over 200 primary students focusing on early intervention and prevention.
 - innovative Early Help Projects including a 7-week anti Knife crime course at Herd Farm, working with a group of 12 at risk young people and VR Headsets used at Bumpy which is a charity who work with vulnerable, at-risk young people.
 - targeted Youth Justice interventions with high-risk young people involved in the Criminal Justice System through Serious Youth Violence.

- extensive Youth Services engagement across the city focused on knife crime and serious youth violence, over 1500 young people were engaged with during this month.
 - extensive third sector engagement across the city with universal and targeted delivery.
 - parental sessions were offered across the city delivered in partnership with WYP, Safer Leeds, The Safe Project, Barca and Crimestoppers to increase awareness and support parents.
 - the Fearless Campaign from Crimestoppers was utilised extensively across media and social media platforms across the city.
 - upskilling of professionals across the month with dedicated sessions on knife crime and serious youth violence.
 - Leeds Teaching Hospital Trust developed a new product (free of charge for schools / youth provisions) with a teaching package looking at knife injuries from different perspectives.
 - support and promotion utilising Leeds United and Leeds Rhinos who promoted key messages using their wider communication network.
 - operational policing deployments including test purchasing, ASB and licensing operations.
 - Knife Amnesty – Over 60 knives were recovered during the amnesty.
109. The event saw the launch of 'Project Shield' which is the Partnership response to tackling Serious Youth Violence; Moving forwards, the focus is on ensuring the legacy through Project Shield and continuing to work in partnership to tackle this key issue and keep the young people of Leeds safe and feeling safer.
110. **Project Shield Branding** - our vision is that Project Shield will be an effective platform to continue to deliver youth informed partnership work, focusing our efforts on identifying and protecting those most vulnerable to being at risk from Serious Youth Violence. Its aims are to engage young people in positive and constructive dialogue, whilst raising awareness of the dangers and consequences of becoming involved in serious youth violence. The Branding was developed in consultation with children and young people across Leeds. The logo design was created by three young people in Leeds that participated in a competition across schools and youth settings. Project Shield was recognised and commended as an effective approach in the recent JTAI.
111. **Joint Targeted Area Inspection -Serious Youth Violence** - this inspection was held in Leeds during March 2024. It was undertaken by inspectors from Ofsted, the Care Quality Commission (CQC), His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) and His Majesty's Inspectorate of Prisons and Probation (HMIP). The report was published in May 2024.
112. **SAFE Task Force** - the Leeds Safe Task force funded from the Department for Education is now in its final phase of delivery (2024/25). The task force continues to bring 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 Leeds SAFE Taskforce's primary intervention continues to be Education Inclusion Mentoring. During 2023/24, the project expanded to 6 new schools and now has 23 Education Inclusion Mentors (EIMS) employed across Leeds. Additionally, St Giles Trust has been commissioned to deliver after-school activities which is targeted at mentees engaged with EIMs. By February 2024, around 500 young people had been engaged in 7014 sessions with an EIM since the

project began in 2021 (EIMs in post from Jan 2022), with 139 young people attending after school activities over 1390 sessions.

113. **West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Partnership Locality Grant funding** - Leeds has secured a further £178k VRU grant funding for 24/25 to continue the Third Sector led community youth work in areas where there is evidence of high presenting levels of youth violence which were highlighted in the local needs assessment. We continue to support and recognise the expertise and importance of the voluntary community sector and their insight into the community challenges of serious violence.

114. During 2023/24 the projects have collectively reached and engaged with 4334 young people; 761 young people were new referrals who have been identified as at risk or involved in youth violence. These programmes range from bespoke work in relation to gangs, 1-1 mentoring and 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.*

115. 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.

116. Identifying and supporting modern slavery victims continues to be a high priority. The most recent national data states that in 2023, 17,004 potential victims were identified and referred into the National Referral Mechanism. Of those, West Yorkshire Police were the responsible force for 585 referrals. Referrals were made by First Responder agencies including the police, local authorities (Leeds – 48 referrals), Barnardo's and the Home Office.

117. During Anti-Slavery Week 2023, the West Yorkshire Anti-Slavery Partnership *Modern Slavery Victim's Voices Exhibition* was launched in Leeds at Dewsbury Road Community Hub. The aim of the exhibition was to bring professional and community awareness to the issue by amplify victims' voices and signposting people to help and support if they have concerns about themselves or other people and/or locations. The presence of the exhibition was complemented by training for Hub and Library staff across the city.

118. In response to Operation Aidant in 2023, West Yorkshire Police and Safer Stronger Communities worked together to produce a campaign aimed at raising awareness of labour exploitation in hand car washes. The roll out of these campaign resources is ongoing. Initiatives such as the 'Safe Car Wash' app and the Responsible Car Wash Scheme were also promoted through the Leeds Pledge to Tackle Modern Slavery.

119. Following its successful introduction in other parts of the country, the Modern Slavery Trusted Assessor scheme was implemented in Leeds in 2023. Working with Leeds Housing Options and trusted third sector partners, we have developed referral pathways whereby select partner

agencies can submit homelessness assessments for victims of modern slavery. This benefits services as we are not duplicating work and it also avoids potentially re-traumatising victims.

120. The Leeds Modern Slavery Board's three-year strategy ended in 2023. This was a timely opportunity to review the Board's Terms of Reference. The group now meets under the new name the 'Leeds Anti-Slavery Partnership' with a refreshed set of operating principles and a wider membership. The Leeds Anti-Slavery Partnership is currently working on a new strategy for 2024 onwards with the support of the Safer Leeds Executive.

Shared Priority 7: Exploitation and Radicalisation

121. The Prevent team (a service area within the wider Safer Stronger Communities Team) continues to lead the city's response to counter terrorism work as part of the local authority's legal obligations as set out within the Prevent Duty. 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 CONTEST Gold, Prevent Silver and Channel multi-agency panels through which work is coordinated. For the second year running the assessment process undertaken by the Home Office has rated the 'Multi-Agency Partnership Group' benchmark as 'exceeding' demonstrating a strong level of governance.

Key Deliverable 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.

122. Contextual Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) meetings continue to be held monthly, focusing on themes, trends, places, spaces, linked to exploitation concerns. They take a contextual approach to identifying, responding to, and disrupting child exploitation. During 2024 we have seen an increase in referrals from a variety of partner agencies resulting in the formulation and development of multi-agency action plans for each location. Over the last 12 months we have extended membership to our third sector and community organisations resulting in positive engagement and developing community-based solutions.
123. Child-focused MACE meetings also take place every two weeks and focus on children where there is either a low/ emerging risk of exploitation, or where there is a high risk because the vulnerability and risk management plan (VRMP) for the child is not having the desired effect.
124. The SAFE Project continues to work closely with partners from the children's social work service, police, education, third sector agencies, health and substance misuse services and continues to effectively deliver:
- Individual Work - We work with children and young people up to eighteen to reduce the risk of exploitation - CSE/CCE
 - Safety Net - We collaborate with parents and carers to give them the confidence and knowledge to understand and respond to concerns around exploitation.
 - Safe Space- We offer consultations to Social Workers and professionals.
 - Harmful Sexual Behaviour- we provide consultation and supervision of HSB assessments.
 - Safety Carer's group- We run a parents' forum (peer support)
 - Siblings group- We work with siblings of exploited children through group work.
 - Deliver training.

125. The Safe Project has now set up and is leading a working group to understand the involvement of girls and gangs across Leeds who are currently not as visible but are vulnerable to the risks associated with gang culture and serious youth violence. We are also currently revising the child exploitation assessment tool and creating a practice guidance for professionals.

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.

126. Prevent awareness training, which remains a core focus of training delivery, has been enhanced with key areas such as current risk and threat, the main routes of radicalisation and emerging areas of concern. This enables organisations to have increased awareness and be better able to identify those susceptible to radicalisation. Training is also now delivered through a mix of either face to face or virtual, supporting differing needs.
127. The comprehensive training programme continues to be developed and bespoke sessions created to support identified areas where tailored training is required. This year the focus has been on early years, governing bodies (education) and GP surgeries. To support the changes within the Prevent Duty, there have also been specific sessions providing educational establishments with the tools to meet their responsibilities, particularly in the area of risk assessments.
128. Partners have been informed of the concerning decline in the age group of those being involved in terrorism or terrorist activity and the significantly increased engagement in online platforms within referrals. As a result, a bespoke training session with associated resources has been developed and delivered on 'online radicalisation and extremism'. A Prevent awareness week, held during February 2024, also provided partners with increased opportunities to build their knowledge and understanding. A number of virtual sessions were held including gaming culture, the Manosphere and Incel Movement, Extreme Right Wing explained, Prevent Duty guidance, keeping safe online, antisemitism, Prevent awareness, and self-initiated terrorism.
129. The Channel Panel, (a multi-agency partnership that provides bespoke support for individuals identified as vulnerable to radicalisation), meets every month. The panel continues to see a number of referrals and cases from a wide range of sectors, the largest being from education and non-Counter Terrorism (CT) policing. Predominant ideologies remain similar to previous years which are Mixed, Unclear and Unstable or Extreme Right Wing. Cases remain very complex with common factors of mental health concerns, neurodiverse conditions and occasionally an interest in weapons being present. A Channel awareness day was held in July 2023 to support the knowledge of the panel. This included sessions on the channel process and the role of the police, the role of the intervention provider, understanding different neurodiverse presentations and how these impact on practice, and CT threat and developing themes.

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.

130. Whilst the Prevent funded community projects started late in 2023/24 due to a delay in funding, they met their delivery outputs and financial targets. They continue to be vital to our approach

in Leeds by increasing understanding of Prevent and developing resilience to radicalisation. Our community projects have remained the same as the previous year in terms of providers and project delivery. Each have innovative approaches using sport, health (substance misuse), outreach or partnership development to build resilience, critical skills and knowledge of extremism. A key theme across all projects this year has been concerns raised about the Israel/Hamas conflict. One example of this was where an outreach project detailed the particular success of supporting a young person whose attendance had suddenly dropped off and behaviour changed. The project managed to pull him back into the project where he opened and said that he was angry due to what he was seeing on social media. A lot of support was provided, and a specific programme was drawn up. He now attends regularly, and the one-to-one engagement has helped him to talk and be more open about the conflict on a personal level.

131. Engagement with elected members has taken place with specific training to those newly elected and also through two successful roundtable events (one for elected members and one for the community) that took place in December 2023. Both events enabled good opportunities for discussion and questions. It also showcased one of our education projects, Odd Arts, through an interactive performance. New engagement opportunities continue to be sought within our communities through established networks and groups. As a consequence, a wide variety of organisations have been supported across all areas including the Advonet group, Leeds Faith Forum, Leeds Mind, the Hunslet club, Leeds United, the Migrant Access project and children's homes.

Priority 8 - People with multiple and complex needs

132. Since its inception, Leeds Street Support Partnership has continued to evolve. The one-team, person-centred approach of 'high support/ high challenge' has further developed within an adult social care risk management framework.
133. Rough sleeping remains a priority and at the core of the city's ambition is preventing rough sleeping happening in the first place. Any instances of rough sleeping should be rare, brief, and non-recurrent.
- Anybody rough sleeping or at risk, is identified and is offered help (**Prevention**)
 - Nobody in temporary accommodation returns to the streets (**Intervention**)
 - Everybody receives an appropriate offer of support (**Recovery**)

Much has been achieved, many lives have been turned around but there remains challenges and pressures across the system.

134. **Performance Oversight-** on an annual basis, the government through the DULCH publish autumn national snapshot figures. [Rough sleeping snapshot in England: autumn 2023 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/rough-sleeping-snapshot-in-england-autumn-2023) (published 29th Feb 2024).
135. **Headline national statistics (Autumn 2023):**
- Number of people estimated to be sleeping rough on a single night: 3,898 (27% increase since 2022, over double the 2010 figure, when the snapshot approach was introduced).
 - The rate of people sleeping rough on a single night in England is 6.8 people per 100,000.

136. **Headline DLUHC core city statistics (Autumn 2023):**

- Bristol is ranked 1st (worst) with the highest count (67) up 16% on the previous year, Leeds ranked 4th (49) up 32%, and Newcastle ranked 10th (best) lowest count (26) up 86%. Only 3 cities' saw a reduction.
- Comparison by a rate (100,000 per population) shows, Brighton & Hove is ranked 1st (worst) with the highest rate (18.7), Leeds is ranked 8th (6.0) and Birmingham 10th (best).

137. **Headline Leeds figures:**

- Leeds has recently seen increases in monthly single night headcounts, matching national increasing trends: May 2024 count = 63 (April:69 Mar: 62, Feb: 62, Jan: 41): Partners have been finding between 115 – 130 individual people in total per month, and this has remained stable over the past 6 months.
- Over the past 6 months Leeds has consistently accommodated over 100+ people in off-street provision monthly, which shows how many people are prevented from rough sleeping each month.
- Leeds does have a high proportion of rough sleepers defined as “long-term” (found 3 x times or more in the past 12 months), accounting for between 55% - 65% of rough sleepers in the last 6 months. All have multiple-complex needs which are difficult to address while living a street-based life.

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.

138. Work has progressed in line with the Leeds Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy (2023-2027) including the re-establishment of the Housing Forum. The Leeds Street Support Partnership conducted a learning review to inform and prioritise a refreshed delivery plan for 2024/25, as part of the Rough Sleeping Initiative funding (DLUCH) requirements.

139. In addition to the existing local authority provision and commissioned services funded by Leeds City Council, the city has secured funding from DLUCH, to support the following examples of enhanced provision:

- 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).
- Kingston (managed through St George's Crypt): provides twenty-four off-street self-contained rooms for males. (Rough Sleepers Initiative funded to March 25).
- 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, again funded to March 25.

140. The following table provides an indication of the number of people rough sleeping who have been supported into the accommodation pathway ion the last year:

Name of service	No. supported per year	Accommodation Capacity
Emergency (Off street) Accommodation Provision		
Overnight and Hub Service (St George's Crypt)	402	27
Kingston Hotel (St George's Crypt)	274	24
Temporary Accommodation		
Kirkstall Lodge (St George's Crypt)	28	9
Kirkstall Road Project (St George's Crypt)	13	9
Intensive Support Environment/ dispersed (TLA)	165 (ISE) 408 (disp)	34 (ISE) 200 (disp)
Somewhere Safe to Stay (St Anne's) Women only	111	12
Somewhere Safe to Live (Together Women Project)	15	6
Ashlar House (St George's Crypt)	50	15
Regent's Lodge (St George's Crypt)	23	14
Don Robbins House (St George's Crypt)	35	24
Housing First Street to Tenancy (BARCA)	2 allocated	15
Car Beck (TLA)	11	6
RSAP tenancies (Rough Sleeper Accommodation Programme grant) (BARCA)	23	38

141. Significant work has been undertaken to compile an evidence base of need, gap analysis of accommodation and support provision for people with complex needs. A co-produced bid was put forward to DLUCH Single Homeless Accommodation Programme (SHAP). Leeds has secured £2,140,000 of capital funding and £4,279,976 for revenue funding. This will enable the city to provide 44 additional supported accommodation places. 25 will be dispersed properties and 19 will be self-contained units within staffed 'cores'. In addition, the Council has worked with Bridge-It Housing who have secured £945,450 capital grant and £489,831 revenue for 15 supported units to supplement the new service. Work is now in progress to delivery SHAP, with an anticipated start date of people entering a safe and secure home from October 2024.

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

142. For those with complex needs, many who have been in/ out of the criminal justice system, dip in/ out of accessing off-street accommodation, and for some who are offered supported accommodation, find this difficult to sustain. This is often compounded by substance use, as well as mental and physical needs and often the system for accessing acute or crisis interventions is challenging. Over this period the following are examples of core delivery activity:

- All known people rough sleeping are allocated an identified Lead Professional and assigned Key Workers, adopting a strengths-based approach to create, review, and progress a bespoke Personal Plan. At a service level (be this on-street, in off-street

accommodation and or in the community), each service has adopted a Trauma Informed response, in line with the city principles and practice. Multi-agency risk management plans including safeguarding and safety plans are co-ordinated through the Safeguarding and Risk Manager (SARM/ Social Worker) and Specialist Workers are brought in, according to the need of the person. Individual cases can be escalated through the Multi-Agency Solution Panel (MASP) or through to the Exceptional Risk Forum (ERF) arrangements, with system change risks/ blockages raised at Silver and/ or Gold for consideration.

- The Target Priority Group (TPG) provides a focused and targeted approach to 20 people (23/24) who have been identified as the most 'entrenched' rough sleepers in Leeds, all have been offered accommodation. Each case is reviewed monthly to track progression. Having an identified lead worker to build trusted relationships (with in a safeguarding and risk management framework) has enabled more 'offers of accommodation' to be accepted, aiding a person's recovery. Individual plans are reviewed monthly and reported in the quarterly reviews. Throughout the year there has been notable successes: including better engagement, more sustained accommodation, and access to specialist provision; examples being:
 - One individual with a long history is currently accommodated in a Transitional Housing Unit (THU). He is a long-term rough sleeper who has a history of being in and out of off-street accommodation. He was in a serious road traffic collision last year with serious implications on his physical health. He was placed in The Kingston; however, due to his risky behaviour towards others, it resulted in him being in and out of this unit. Regular MDTs took place and risk assessments to explore an alternative programme due to his challenging behaviours. This led to him being offered a space in THU and despite initial concerns, and with the right support to meet his particular needs he has sustained and remains in the property 6 months on. This is the longest period he has been in accommodation since he started rough sleeping.
 - Two individuals have moved from the street directly into an RSAP properties and support by a named navigator. Both males had never really accessed off street accommodation and so this was considered a risky move, however both have sustained their tenancy, again 6 months and continue to get the wrap around support from specialist services.
143. The Homeless and Health Inclusion Team (Leeds Community Health Care) provide individual support to vulnerable homeless adults to ensure people leaving hospital have an effective support network. This includes medical and psycho-social support and timely, open, and honest discussions to help our patients make their own decisions. This connects with the wider partnership including the York Street Practice and the Bevan Healthcare provision.
144. The Forward Leeds have implemented a daily duty assessment to enable rapid access to treatment that day, and now have access to a daily duty clinician to review and commence administration of a prescribed dosage of opioid medicines to patients with opioid dependence, where safe and appropriate.
145. Navigator posts (Barca-Leeds) provide intensive support and work with a smaller group of people, generally a 1:6 or 1:8 ratio of navigator to person receiving support. Navigators currently working to capacity, focus on the health and wellbeing of the person and practical support such as managing a home, and use of social prescribing for as long as is needed to enable tenancy sustainment. Local intelligence and evidence from the monthly counts has shown that people with navigator support are significantly less like to be found rough sleeping on the counts, are more likely to be actively engaged in recovery, are more likely to connect to the community where they live, and less likely to return to the streets.

146. Health Inclusion Board has now been established with partners to take forward the 'system change' work for this population and have begun to examine and prioritise where the system can flex, improve, or change.

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.*

147. Plans are now emerging (subject the Trust Boards due financial diligence) to refurbish the St. Annes Resource Centre into Health and Wellbeing Centre for the Homeless. Currently, this is a day service run by St. Annes Community Service for individuals aged 18 and over who are homeless or vulnerably housed and who may also have mental health, drug and/ or alcohol issues. It includes a safe mail address, shower and laundry facilities, support with housing and benefit issues, with timetabled of classes free to those on benefits including employment and training, life skills and ESOL. In addition, Bevan Healthcare provide NHS General Practice services, inclusive and wellbeing provision for homeless people, people in temporary accommodation or people who have come to the UK as refugees or seeking asylum who find it hard to access healthcare. Bevan also deliver the street health care provision, via a mobile van as part of Leeds Street Support.
148. Work continues through the Homeless Charter, for mutual community support, including regular meetings covering homeless and rough sleeping, ensuring the voice of grass roots organisations are fed into relevant working groups (housing and accommodation, mental health and addictions, prisoner release and ex-offender accommodation, and migration and people with no recourse to public funds).
149. Leeds Street Support partnership has worked with Charter group to encourage grass roots groups 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. The Charter group provides support to Grassroots Groups to sustain the 'indoor evening kitchen' at the Resource Centre. This currently working 3 nights a week, varying from 40 – 80 on any given night. Not all the people are homeless but are in food poverty. The grass roots organisations are asked to support and direct people to the community where they live and support to grassroot organisations in the delivery of food to various indoor outlets across the city.
150. The befriending scheme to link volunteers from Grassroots Groups and Charities with people who are being supported in the community has proven a real challenge, with people not meeting up. This will be relooked at in the future alongside developing peer led approaches.

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

151. The Board recognises sex workers are not a single homogenous group, they are people first with their own personal experiences, histories, and current circumstances. Sex work exists on a complex spectrum of risk, control, and autonomy, and as such, the partnership work is set through a lens of 'high risk and / or high harm' to sex workers, acknowledging it is predominantly women, who are at greatest risk of violence or exploitation.

152. The shared priorities focus on People and Place:
- Reducing the vulnerability and improving the safety, health, and wellbeing of street sex workers
 - Targeting those exploiting or causing harm to street sex workers, and
 - Building trust and confidence with and for the community
153. During this year, numerous women have been supported in their decision to seek relevant support to meet their needs, including a) moving to safe and secure accommodation they are proud to call home, b) action against men who abuse and cause significant harm, resulting in increased prosecution for their violent and criminal offences and c) increased closure of 'trap houses' using criminal, civil and/ or regulative powers to dismantle organised crime groups.
154. Much has been achieved, many people have been supported and lives have been turned around. This area of work is multi-layered and complex impacting on the lives of sex workers and communities. There remains challenges and pressures across the system.
155. **Performance Oversight** - there has been a steady but positive trajectory for some years now with regards to how the city responds to the presenting issue of street sex work. The scale and prevalence remain stable and has not returned to the numbers seen pre-covid.

Headlines:

- The number of sex workers seen averages 20+ a week, lower than previous years.
 - Engagement reports from support services, record seeing around 30+ women a week. This has not increased much from late 2023, although the number of repeat engagements seems to be increasing (i.e., women are being seen more frequently).
 - There have been a few new or returners to sex working. The main reasons given by women being the cost of living.
 - The dedicated phone line on average receives 9-10 calls per week.
 - The number of successful enforcements against offender and closure orders on properties is up.
 - Total levels of sex-litter cleansing across the city has not increased. There has been a small increase in reporting of sex-litter around pockets of residential areas, where generally the women live.
156. There has been increased community engagement and action in key presenting areas, including promotion of the key contacts for services, through a variety of platforms, to the community, residents, and businesses. Specifically, if related to sex work and kerb crawling, people can report to the Police by calling the Dedicated Line, or 101/ online if not an emergency, or if a crime is in progress or an emergency 999 and the police will respond accordingly. Issues of this nature are serious and dealt with accordingly.
157. The Council continues to fund a dedicated policing response to minimise the adverse impact of sex-working and kerb-crawling concerns. This includes 4 ringfenced Police Officers (WYP fund 2 and LCC fund 2), who work closely with the Leeds ASB Teams and the wider connected partnership. The police invest considerable time and effort to provide a visible deterrent to people looking to procure the services of sex workers, and to safeguard the women and protect the community. This continues to be supported by the significant investment by the local authority in maintaining and monitoring on- street CCTV, the deployment of Safer Leeds vehicle patrols and is supported by the Community Safety Performance and Intelligence Team.

158. 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, drug supply, county lines and modern slavery.
159. Further learning from Leeds Street Support 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, Somewhere Safe to Stay and into their own tenancy through the Somewhere Safe to Live pathway. Reviews (place, space, and time) of support services outreach functions takes place regularly, using the combined intelligence and information from the partnership. This is important as it allows resources across the partnership to be as responsive as possible and to deploy its capability.
160. Funding has been secured via the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) to create a newly funded 'Specialised Drug and Alcohol Sex Worker Team (Forward Leeds). This will aid harm reduction practice and improve access into and retention with drug treatment. Including in this is a specific budget for inpatient detox and rehabilitation for individuals engaged. The team will offer innovative, flexible, and trauma-informed support to sex workers through an assertive high support/ high challenge outreach-based model and collaborate with existing service providers, law enforcement, and healthcare services to remove barriers to treatment and reduce substance-related harms. This will start in the mid-summer of 2024.
161. The community safety partnership is committed to continuing to support women to be safer and healthier, and thereby reducing the prevalence of street sex working, as well as addressing associated community concerns such as litter, and anti-social behaviour incidents. A refreshed delivery plan has been co-produced with partners and is currently being ratified. As a partnership we will continue to keep all matters under review.

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.

162. Serious Violence Duty and Governance arrangements - The West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP) continues to be the vehicle for delivering the Serious Violence Duty in Leeds and across West Yorkshire. The New Serious Violence Duty arrangements were required to be in place by 31st Jan 2024. To meet the new statutory duty, the VRP has now published a refreshed West Yorkshire Response strategy and the West Yorkshire Strategic Needs Assessment (Jan 24, (Period June 22-June 23). The full documents can be found here at [VRP Needs Assessment & Response Strategy - West Yorkshire Combined Authority \(westyorks-ca.gov.uk\)](https://www.westyorks-ca.gov.uk/vrp-needs-assessment-response-strategy) In addition to the West Yorkshire Strategic needs assessment, a local Leeds Place based strategic needs assessment was also completed, the local needs assessment has highlighted some emerging issues and areas of concern that will drive the programme of activity during 2024.
163. The Safer Leeds Executive continues to be accountable for overseeing the work and partnership delivery of the Serious Violence and Serious Organised Crime Board and the local delivery plan that will be completed by September 2024. Serious Violence will feature as a

priority in the newly refreshed CSP strategy and is also a priority and to be addressed through operational plans for Violence Against Women and Girls, (VAWG) 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.

164. The Leeds Violence Against Women and Girls Board continues to drive activity to tackle violence against women and girls (VAWG) in Leeds, responding to local needs, regional and national strategy, and monitoring the effectiveness of funding secured to deliver initiatives targeting VAWG city-wide.
165. Work has continued to promote the city's response to VAWG, aiming to make women and girls more aware of the initiatives in place to keep them safer and signpost them to support if they are affected by violence. This public awareness raising also seeks to increase men's awareness of VAWG, encouraging men to take an active role in the prevention of violence and sexism towards women and girls and to make the 'White Ribbon Promise'.
166. During the annual 16 Days of Activism (November – December 2023), several events were hosted across the city. Examples include the Woodhouse Moor Park Run 'White Ribbon takeover', engaging with 700+ runners and a community event delivered by councillors and the Localities Team in Chapeltown. A 16-day social media campaign reached over 38,000 people across Facebook and Instagram, promoting a variety of support services and safety initiatives such as Leeds Domestic Violence Service (LDVS), Support After Rape and Sexual Violence Leeds (SARSVL), Ask for Angela Leeds and WalkSafe Leeds.
167. Safety of Women and Girls in Leeds City Centre – and beyond - The Women's Night Safe Space, delivered by Women Friendly Leeds in partnership with Bevan Healthcare, has continued to support women in Leeds City Centre on Saturdays between 10pm and 3am, and on additional busy evenings. Support on and off the mobile unit is delivered by a trained, multi-disciplinary team including the Women's Night Safe Space Co-ordinator, sessional outreach workers, healthcare professionals and SIA accredited female security staff.
168. It provides a non-judgmental safe place for women to seek help if feeling unwell or vulnerable, to talk through any concerns, make reports to the police, wait for friends, get help with calling a taxi or be signposted to further support e.g., for domestic abuse, sexual assault, housing etc. Practical resources are also provided such as water, hot drinks, food, phone charging, comfortable footwear and period products. In addition to providing support to women, the WNSS team facilitate conversations about women's safety with male customers and workers in the night-time economy.
169. Between November 2022 and September 2023 (period funded by Safer Streets Fund 4), 934 women were supported over 62 funded and 3 self-funded sessions. Short-term funding was identified to sustain the WNSS for a further 12 months and this is due to expire in September 2024. Women Friendly Leeds has developed a business case and, with the support of the Leeds VAWG Board, are working to find funding for the future.
170. Two 12-month part-time posts were funded through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund City Centre Improvements project to further develop and embed the Ask for Angela Leeds scheme and other women's safety initiatives in the city centre, including WalkSafe Leeds. The Ask for

Angela scheme has now expanded beyond night-time economy venues to leisure centres, cafés, gyms and notably, the Trinity Leeds shopping centre, where a special event was held on International Women's Day to promote their participation in the scheme as well as other women's safety initiatives in the city.

171. The Women's Say on Leeds City Centre survey was conducted in spring/summer 2023, with over 2500+ respondents sharing their experiences of safety in Leeds City Centre. As well as providing a useful insight to inform the City Centre VAWG Thematic Group action plan, the survey highlighted the how intersecting characteristics such as sexuality, age, race, ethnicity, disability, and religion can be relevant to women's experiences and feelings of safety.
172. WalkSafe Leeds - Safer Leeds has funded year 1 of a three-year pilot safety app to work with developers behind the national 'WalkSafe' app and provide an enhanced version. The team worked diligently behind the scenes to collect, collate, and check relevant data, obtaining consent from businesses, developing app icons, and used volunteers to test its functionality, in advance of a high visibility launch on the 29th of September 2023 at the O2 Academy Leeds. This was followed by a brass band fanfare, 'Strut with Confidence' procession, led by Leeds City College dancers in Leeds city centre, complemented by live streaming and an online social media plan to bring it to public attention.
173. The app has been developed through a lens of violence against women and girls but can be used by anyone. It is a free and inclusive personal safety app, enabling users to plan safer journeys and share routes with family, friends, and trusted contacts. The app, which can send alerts to trusted contacts if help is needed, has additional features in Leeds City Centre and across a 6km radius. When walking, the locations of over 250 compliant and registered Ask for Angela Leeds venues pop up. It also identifies LGBT+ inclusive hospitality premises, where staff have been trained in being an active bystander, plus safety features and can spotlight where the Night Safe Leeds Street Marshals and the Women's Night Safe Space is, if they are needed.
174. The app has been downloaded by more than 3,500 people within the Leeds area and has been used over 26,000 times within Leeds within 6 months. The WalkSafe Leeds app can be used 24/7 and by visitors and residents as well as workers go to and from work.
175. Leeds has been recognised as a flagship authority in respect of this work, with our model being adopted / adapted in other areas; and we are regularly called upon to advise other local authorities and organisations rolling out WalkSafe in their area. In the 6 months since its launch:
 - 3,578 people have downloaded the app, with an audience of 65% female and 35% male.
 - 2,300 active and engaged WalkSafe users and
 - has been used over 26,000 times in Leeds.

176. Feedback

WalkSafe... 'It has been wonderful working with Safer Leeds, Leeds City Council, and its partners, to make a difference in people's lives on a day-to-day basis. It has been a genuine partnership in which we have been able to exchange ideas, challenges, and concerns; both partners working in collaboration to drive up delivery and excellence in delivery'.

BACIL NTE Co-ordinator... 'WalkSafe has been a terrific boost to community safety in our city, has been widely welcomed and is increasingly a hallmark of our community safety and city "brand", aligned to the Leeds safeguarding and vulnerability work, and the iconic Ask for Angela Leeds. I know Simon and the team have even more ambitious plans to further develop the app and its delivery'.

177. UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) Women and Girls Outreach Programme - all 4 strands of the UKSPF Women and Girls Outreach Programme have progressed in Year 1 (2023-24).
178. 283m² of improvements have been planned across two community parks in line with the West Yorkshire Mayor's Safer Parks Guidance and in consultation with local women and girls. Work in one community park is almost complete and has recently commenced in the other. A further £76k of capital improvements to parks and/or public realm, designed through a lens of women and girls' safety, are to be delivered in 2024-25.
179. Urban Catalyst were commissioned to deliver a study to understand the need for and feasibility of a Women's Centre for Leeds which has now concluded and will be followed by a pilot stage delivered by the Women & Girls Alliance Leeds in 2024-25. Consultation has included 51 semi-structured interviews, 9 focus groups, 3 public workshops totalling 41 attendees and 601 responses to an online survey.
180. Switch onto Women's Safety – Training for Men is a workshop delivered by men, to men, and supports participants to understand women's experience of VAWG and find practical tools, ideas and solutions to become active bystanders whilst keeping themselves safe. 9 UKSPF funded 'train the trainer' sessions were delivered in 2023-24, giving 50+ men the tools and knowledge to roll this training out within their own organisations. Attendees have included men working in the night-time economy, West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue, Leeds Health and Care Academy and male employees and Councillors from Leeds City Council. The training achieved accreditation in March 2024, led by the main trainer organisation Humans Being.
181. The Women Friendly Leeds movement has continued to attract momentum with some key engagement activity delivered. 50 women with diverse backgrounds and experiences have been engaged in the Community Conversations events, 75 women attended the Maternity Concerns event delivered in partnership with the Women's Culturally Diverse Hub and more than 40 women attended the Women Friendly Leeds International Women's Day event. The findings from this consultation and engagement activity will be shared at the 'call to action' event in year 2 of the programme.
182. Protect - the Safer Leeds Partnership is continuing its work with the Counter Terrorism Unit to work towards positioning ourselves and our key partners in readiness for the forthcoming Protection of Premises Bill & the Protect Duty. A structured approach has been adopted, including a zoning exercise and risk assessing framework for areas now known as Publicly Accessible Locations to mitigate the threat of potential terrorist attacks. Leeds has identified a number of zones across the city, and work is being progressed on detailing specific sites within those zones. The intention is to link into these locations as the legislation starts to unfold, to provide advice and guidance regarding the likely requirements. Work is also being completed to identify and assess Local Authority premises and locations to ensure we commence actions to ensure compliance with future legislation. 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.

183. 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 the summer of 2025 following the result of the General Election.
184. 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.
185. 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.