

Public Report
Overview and Scrutiny Management Board

Committee Name and Date of Committee Meeting

Overview and Scrutiny Management Board – 14 December 2022

Report Title

The Safer Rotherham Partnership (SRP) Annual Report 2021-22

Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?

No

Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

Paul Woodcock, Strategic Director of Regeneration and Environment

Report Author(s)

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Ward(s) Affected

Borough-Wide

Report Summary

Under section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006 and The Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009, annual scrutiny is required of decisions made and actions taken by responsible authorities in connection with the discharge of crime and disorder functions. The SRP annual report 2021-22 is presented to assist with this requirement.

Recommendations

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Board notes the progress of the Safer Rotherham Partnership in tackling crime and disorder in 2021-22 against its key priorities and makes recommendations in relation to the current and future work of the partnership.

List of Appendices Included

Appendix 1 Safer Rotherham Partnership Annual Report 2022-25

Background Papers

No

Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel

The annual report was presented to and agreed by the Safer Rotherham Partnership Board on 10 August 2022 and Cabinet on 20 September 2022.

Council Approval Required

No

Exempt from the Press and Public

No

The Safer Rotherham Partnership (SRP) Annual Report 2021-22

1. Background

1.1 The Safer Rotherham Partnership is the borough's Community Safety Partnership, set up under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. Responsible authorities have a duty to work together to protect their local communities and help people feel safer. They work out how to deal with crime and local issues like anti-social behaviour, drug or alcohol misuse and reoffending. They assess local crime priorities annually, consulting with partners and the local community about their priorities and monitor progress in achieving them. There are five responsible authorities that make up the Safer Rotherham Partnership:

- Probation Service
- Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue
- South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
- South Yorkshire Police

Voluntary Action Rotherham, Victim Support and The Police and Crime Commissioner for South Yorkshire are also represented at SRP Board meetings.

1.2 Section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006, requires the Local Authority to ensure that it has a committee with power to review and scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions and to make reports or recommendation to the Local Authority with respect to the discharge of those functions. The Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009, require this committee to meet annually. The SRP annual report is presented to assist the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board in meeting this annual statutory requirement.

2. Key Issues

2.1 How the SRP priorities for 2021-22 were agreed

2.2 The overarching priorities referred to in the annual report were agreed by the SRP Board in 2018, following an enhanced assessment and consultation process to develop 3-year priorities from 2018 to 2021. Annual "light touch" reviews have taken place since, focussing on high-risk threats and areas presenting an increasing or changing risk level. In February 2021, the Safer Rotherham Partnership (SRP) Board agreed to extend the priorities for an extra year to cover 2021-2022. This was due to the impact of the Covid pandemic on partner capacity to carry out the enhanced review process in 2020 and early 2021 and restricted methods available for community involvement. The pandemic also affected reported crime and time was needed to understand the impacts on crime data.

2.3 In order to ensure that, whilst 'light touch,' the annual review process was robust, a range of evidence was collected and reviewed. The evidence used for the 2021-22 review included:

- Rotherham Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment (JSIA) Summary – SYP Performance and Emerging Issues (February 2021)
- Rotherham Child Exploitation Strategic Profile v2 (January 2020)
- Review of SRP Partnership Plan 2018-2021 (September 2020)
- SRP Quarterly Performance Dashboard 2020-21 – achievement against performance indicators
- Issues identified by SRP priority leads/theme groups

2.4 SRP priorities and objective areas for 2021-22

2.5 The Safer Rotherham Partnership agreed five overarching priorities from 2018-2022. These were: Protecting Vulnerable Children; Protecting Vulnerable Adults; Building Confident and Cohesive Communities; Domestic Abuse and Sexual Offences; and Tackling Serious and Organised Crime. The table below shows the objective areas within each priority which were agreed by the SRP Board as a focus for action in 2021-22. The priorities and objective areas were agreed in accordance with the overall SRP vision statement –

Working together to make Rotherham safe, to keep Rotherham safe and to ensure the communities of Rotherham feel safe.

SRP Priority	Objective areas/focus for action
Protecting Vulnerable Children	Tackling child criminal exploitation
	Prevent child sexual exploitation
	Prevent online offending
	Reduce the number of repeat missing children
	Preventing offending
Protecting Vulnerable Adults	Preventing offending
	Mental health
	Substance misuse
	Preventing modern slavery 'mate crime' and 'cuckooing'
	Reduce repeat victims of crime
Building Confident and Cohesive Communities	Making communities safer – tackling community safety priority locations
	Protecting people vulnerable to being drawn into extremism and terrorism
	Preventing hate crime and increasing reporting
	Effective response to community tensions
Domestic Abuse and Sexual Offences	Domestic violence and abuse
	Violence Against Women and Girls.
	Rape and serious sexual offences
	Honour based abuse (including FGM and forced marriage)
Tackling Serious and Organised Crime	Violent crime
	Drug supply

2.6 Governance and performance management

2.7 SRP governance processes ensure robust performance management of the priorities. Each objective area has a set of performance indicators which enable progress to be tracked. Monitoring is carried out by designated priority strategic leads who sit at the SRP Board and are supported by partnership priority groups and designated RMBC Community Safety Officers. The strategic theme lead presents a quarterly performance dashboard to the SRP Board, covering what is working well, current challenges and next steps for their priority area. Ensuing discussions allow for challenge by the wider Board members and discussion around any remedial action required. The process also provides assurance to the Board of progress.

2.8 Coordination of action to achieve objectives

2.9 2021-22 has seen investment into the RMBC Community Safety team with additional resources allocated through national government funding (Domestic Abuse Act 2021 new burdens funding), allocation of PCC funding by the SRP Board and RMBC investment funding. This has allowed for the recruitment and appointment of a new Community Safety Service Manager to manage the Council Community Safety team. The team includes 6 Community Safety Officers who support the SRP strategic theme leads by coordinating action to achieve agreed SRP objectives, including development and delivery of partnership action plans, negotiating agreements for joint action with partners and overcoming barriers, convening and managing partnership tactical groups, performance management, monitoring of funding allocations and grants, and monitoring of commissioned services and projects. Other team members include the Organised Crime Partnership Coordinator, South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Partnership Manager (based with the South Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit) and a domestic abuse performance and quality officer. Recruitment is underway to fill a vacant technical officer post who will support improvement in relation to partnership structures to promote safer neighbourhoods, including a review of locality tasking meetings and how these interface with community multi-agency risk assessment processes and vulnerable adult risk management processes. The team also makes sure that the Council's community safety function and the wider community safety partnership are adhering to applicable statutory duties.

2.10 Achievements and progress in 2021-22

2.11 The annual report at appendix 1 provides an overview of the work and achievements against each SRP priority and objective area in 2021-22. It sets out what action was taken, achievements and progress made (what we did) and current and emerging challenges. Data and case studies are included to illustrate key work areas. The annual report also recognises that there are constant new challenges relating to crime and community safety that the SRP Board and partners have to deal with. Therefore, the annual report describes future action required.

2.12 Funding

2.13 The Safer Rotherham Partnership is allocated a grant each year by the Police and Crime Commissioner to be used towards local community safety priorities. Allocation of this funding is directed and approved by the Safer Rotherham Partnership Board and managed by the Council. In 2021-22 the SRP received a Police and Crime Commissioner grant of £128,386. The annual report lists how this was utilised. The annual report also includes examples where SRP partners have identified and allocated additional funding to achieve SRP priorities, including through external funding bids. This has enabled partners to maximise opportunities to pool resources and achieve added value.

2.14 SRP priority setting 2022-2025

2.15 A comprehensive and enhanced priority review process was carried out from May 2021 to March 2022 to inform new priorities and a new SRP Plan from 2022 to 2025. This included a comprehensive review of Police and partner data and information, wide ranging consultation, use of the Management of Risk in Law Enforcement (MoRiLE) tool to assess risks and workshops with strategic leads and professionals with relevant expertise.

3. Options considered and recommended proposal

3.1 This report is presented to assist with meeting statutory requirements for the review and scrutiny of crime and disorder functions by the responsible authorities, therefore no alternative options have been considered.

4. Consultation on proposal

4.1 The SRP Annual Report 2021-22 was presented to and approved by the Safer Rotherham Partnership Board at its meeting on 10 August 2022.

5. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision

5.1 Not applicable

6. Financial and Procurement Advice and Implications

6.1 There are no direct financial or procurement implications associated with this report.

7. Legal Advice and Implications

7.1 There are no direct legal implications associated with this report.

8. Human Resources Advice and Implications

8.1 There are no direct human resources implications associated with this report.

9. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults

9.1 There are no direct implications for children and young people and vulnerable adults associated with this report.

10. Equalities and Human Rights Advice and Implications

10.1 There are no direct equalities and human rights implications associated with this report.

11. Implications for CO₂ Emissions and Climate Change

11.1 There are no direct CO₂ Emissions and Climate Change implications associated with this report.

12. Implications for Partners

12.1 There are no direct implications for partners associated with this report.

13. Risks and Mitigation

13.1 The production of this report for scrutiny ensures that the minimum legal requirements are met.

Accountable Officer(s)

Sam Barstow, Assistant Director, Community Safety and Street Scene
Emma Ellis, Head of Service, Community Safety and Regulatory Services

Approvals obtained on behalf of:

	Name	Date
Chief Executive		05/09/22
Strategic Director of Finance & Customer Services (S.151 Officer)	Rob Mahon	09/08/22
Assistant Director of Legal Services (Monitoring Officer)	Phillip Horsfield	31/08/22

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