



Strategic Policing and Crime Board

Tuesday 15 October 2019

Police and Crime Plan Priority: Strengthening communities and growing the local economy II

Title: West Midlands Community Safety Partnership and local Community Safety Partnerships

Presented by: Alethea Fuller, Head of Policy and Commissioning

Purpose of paper

1. The purpose of this report is to provide members of the Strategic Police and Crime Board (SPCB) with an update on the work undertaken by the West Midlands Community Safety Partnership and how the WMCSPP works with our seven local Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs).

Background

2. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires that responsible authorities (known collectively as a Community Safety Partnership (CSPs)) in a local government area work together to formulate and implement strategies to tackle local crime and disorder in the area. Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, as amended by the Police and Justice Act 2006, requires responsible authorities to consider crime and disorder (including antisocial behaviour and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment); and the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in the exercise of all their duties, activities and decision-making. This means that in all policies, strategies and service delivery there is a need to consider the likely impact on crime and disorder.
3. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 (the Act 2011) requires CSPs to have regard to the objectives set out in the PCC's [Police and Crime Plan 2016-20 'Your Plan, Your Priorities'](#) and for the PCC and CSPs to co-operate with each other in exercising their respective functions. The Act 2011 set out a number of ways that PCCs and CSPs should work together, including a mutual duty to cooperate to reduce crime and disorder and reoffending and a requirement that

the PCC and CSP must have regard to each other's priorities within their respective plans. In addition, PCCs are held to account by police and crime panels while overview and scrutiny committees for community safety scrutinise the work of the CSP as a whole (and are unique in that they can call in representatives from the other responsible authorities on CSPs to be held to account).

4. The PCC committed to 'explore for 2018/19 a West Midlands-wide Policing and Crime Board with representatives from each local authority area that will aim to deliver responses to issues more efficiently and effectively at a regional level'.
5. In order to establish the WMCSPP, the OPCC carried out a significant consultation process with partners to establish the partnership. The PCC's thinking was set in the context of significant changes to the landscape for local community safety partnerships over recent years, and the consultation and review was delivered with the aim of assessing the picture, looking at how local authorities and partners were responding to some of the challenges of the new landscape, and ultimately encouraging further strategic thinking at individual council and sector-wide levels about how best to shape services for the future on a West Midlands footprint.
6. The WMCSPP had its first meeting in April 2018 and the main aim has been to develop and enhance multi-agency approaches to reducing crime and disorder across the West Midlands. It also provides the PCC with the opportunity to work with partners to provide efficient and effective community safety across the region.
7. It provides oversight of the delivery of national strategies, such as the Serious Violence Strategy, whilst also maintaining a commitment to community safety. This approach provides an advisory role, and requires effective links with the various other relevant partnerships and meetings to ensure that the objectives of the Partnership and ultimately, those of the PCC are met.
8. The budget for community safety is taken from the PCC's Police Main Grant, there is no longer a budget allocation from the Home Office for community safety. The PCC recognises that importance of the work that CSP's do and therefore has kept the community safety budget at the same level since 2017/18 at £3,863,308, as well as determining that each CSP will continue to receive an allocation to enable local commissioning of services that respond to emerging issues.

Achievements since 2018/19

9. The meetings of the Partnership are aligned to the Commissioner's policing priorities and have served to identify opportunities for an evidence based, pan-West Midlands approach, including co-commissioning, the sharing of best practice and collaboration in support of the Partnership's priorities.
10. In particular, we have discussed a wide range of current issues including, serious violence, offending and reoffending, victims, and substance misuse.
11. The Partnership planned a programme of work for the year ahead as a result of the formal consultation. It has been twenty one years since the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 brought Community Safety Partnerships into being and much has changed since then. The changes have enabled us to have a greater focus on the issues facing our region. Over the year, partnership members have shared

best practice regarding a wide range of current issues affecting their local areas. The next section of the report looks at specific work that has been carried out.

Serious Violence

12. Against the background of a rising violent crime profile in the West Midlands, and taking into account the approach taken by the PCC, the WMCSP discussed an up-scaled approach to reduce and prevent violence, coordinated across the West Midlands, and building on the considerable body of work already being undertaken at local and regional level.
13. This approach is also supported and situated within the WM Community Safety Partnership governance structure and there is Home Office interest in the work we are doing.
14. As part of the serious violence overview of the West Midlands, the Partnership was given an outline of the work taking place across the force area to respond to youth violence, following a successful bid for the Early Youth Intervention Fund which was announced in November 2018 by the Home Office, as part of the governments Serious Violence Strategy. The PCC secured £2,061,000 for 18 months of activity across the West Midlands; it has had a significant impact on intervention and prevention. The PCC's approach to this funding was a West Midlands wide proposal, with significant input from CSPs who played a key role in shaping the solution, through qualitative responses and supplying background data and information.
15. The funding was allocated as per the table below:

Early Youth Intervention Fund 2018/19 (Quarter 4: January-March 2019)	
<i>Activity</i>	<i>Cost</i>
<i>Targeted Interventions – engagement, diversion and mentoring projects</i>	
<i>Allocation by CSP:</i>	
<i>Birmingham</i>	100,000
<i>Birmingham Commission on Gangs and Violence</i>	100,000
<i>Coventry</i>	40,000
<i>Dudley</i>	26,000
<i>Sandwell</i>	47,000
<i>Solihull</i>	26,000
<i>Walsall</i>	33,000
<i>Wolverhampton</i>	40,000
<i>Targeted Interventions in the Teachable moment – Coventry and Wolverhampton</i>	80,000
<i>Participant costs</i>	8,000
<i>Staff Training – ACES Recovery</i>	30,000
<i>Communications</i>	10,000
<i>Project Co-ordinator x 2 @ 45k p.a. inclusive</i>	22,500
<i>Travel and subsistence</i>	3,000
<i>Room Hire (network events)</i>	1,500

<i>Schools Based Projects</i>	30,000
<i>Half Term Sports Activities</i>	100,000
<i>Online Training Resource – ACES Recovery</i>	40,000
<i>Total</i>	737,000

Early Youth Intervention Fund 2019/20	
<i>Activity</i>	<i>Allocation</i>
<i>Targeted Interventions – engagement, diversion and mentoring projects</i>	908,000
<i>Allocation by CSP:</i>	
<i>Birmingham</i>	320,000
<i>Birmingham Commission on Gangs and Violence</i>	80,000
<i>Coventry</i>	110,000
<i>Dudley</i>	74,000
<i>Sandwell</i>	128,000
<i>Solihull</i>	74,000
<i>Walsall</i>	92,000
<i>Wolverhampton</i>	110,000
<i>Targeted Interventions in the Teachable moment – Coventry and Wolverhampton</i>	220,000
<i>Participant costs</i>	32,000
<i>Staff Training – ACES Recovery</i>	50,000
<i>Communications</i>	10,000
<i>Project co-ordinator x 2 @ 45k p.a. inclusive</i>	90,000
<i>Travel and subsistence</i>	12,000
<i>Room Hire (network events)</i>	2,000
<i>Total</i>	£1,324,000

A Snapshot of the work taking place: Targeted Interventions

16. The original forecast was that by the end of Quarter 1, the PCC's EIYF programme would have reached 300 young people through mentoring provision and an additional 1000 through diversionary activities. At the end of quarter 1, the cumulative totals highlight that our EIYF programme is exceeding these milestones, with 457 young people reached through mentoring (257 specifically in Qrt1) and 3693 having benefited from diversionary activities (693 specifically in Qrt1).
17. EIYF grant has also been used to fund a Fearless Coordinator for 12 months. The Fearless project aims to educate and empower 11-16 year olds by increasing their awareness around gangs, knife crime, and county lines. Fearless sessions enable young people to make positive, informed decisions around crime. Uniquely, young people can also pass on crime reports to Fearless.org anonymously and safely. At the end of Quarter 1, the Coordinator had delivered 7 train trainer sessions, reaching 116 professionals, 13 Schools were engaged across the West Midlands

providing 27 workshops/assemblies to over 1324 students; with an additional 4 awareness raising events with 564 young people engaged.

18. Street Games were also commissioned to build capacity among targeted intervention providers in Sandwell. Over quarter 1, they trained 16 providers in a Level 1 Youth at Risk course.

Gangs & Violence (Birmingham only)

19. 15 Gangs and Violence projects have been match funded by EIYF. They range from weekly sports sessions, media projects in schools, community outreach, financial skills workshops, targeted programmes in schools with young people at risk of gangs and violence, group and 1:1 work with gang affiliated young women, youth leadership courses, and parent training. In quarter 1, 92 young people received Mentoring and 320 young people attended diversionary activities.
20. 7 additional Gangs and Violence projects have been funded outside of the EIYF and from those projects 97 young people have accessed mentoring through sports and workshops for NEET outcomes and 27 accessed diversionary activities.
21. On the 6th June 2019, most of the Gangs and Violence project providers attended an OPCC facilitated 'provider network'; which will
 - enable partnership working/ follow on referrals among organisations
 - Identify shared strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to build resilience among providers and up skill/ resource where required (i.e. sharing best practice)
 - Create an ongoing conversation for providers, OPCC and Birmingham Voluntary Skills Council to work in partnership and collaboration.

Reach Project

22. EIYF funded part of a pilot project to support young people aged 16-24 living in Birmingham or Solihull referred to the service having been identified by the Youth Offending Service and / or West Midlands Police as being "at risk of offending" and who were at risk of being NEET (i.e. not engaged in Education, Employment or Training), plus referrals from the Care Leavers Team. Outcomes across the whole of the project which ran from 1st August 2018 to 9th May 2019 were 344 referrals in (target 300), 214 young people successfully engaged in mentoring support (target 240) and 133 young people successfully engaged in Education, Training or Employment (target 90).

Case Study – Mentoring provision (Coventry)

A young person moved to Coventry from London due to his involvement in gangs and criminal exploitation. Credible intel from professionals identified criminal activity within Young person excluded from school after an incident involving him and the possession of Class B drugs. Young person referred into alternative education programme but was refusing to attend due to conflict with another young person who is also heavily linked with gang activity within the city. Mentor allocated to young person and supported the engagement of him and his alternative education centre, since the mentoring commenced the young person has had above 90% attendance on his education programme. The young person has shown an increased motivation to achieve and expressed his desire to return to mainstream education and has developed aspirations to progress into a legitimate lifestyle once entering adulthood.

Interventions in the Teachable Moment and Building Sustainable Capacity

23. The EIYF funded the A&E mentoring service, delivered through St Giles Trust. It has been established at Wolverhampton New Cross and Coventry University Hospitals. At the end of Quarter 1, 30 young people were referred to the service after presenting to A&E; 100% were initially engaged. Of those engaged 22 young people decided to receive support, of which:
- 40% were under 16 years old
 - 20% presented with mental health issues
 - 60% were BAME
 - 56% were gang affiliated
 - 12% had substance misuse issues
 - 3 with threat to life situations
24. Initial intervention aims to cover current risk assessment, general health and wellbeing, current relationship with other services/support available. Following on from initial engagement, the young person will be contacted for follow up with up to 3 phone calls to ascertain if further support is required. There has been a 50% attachment rate, with 3 young people having follow up contact outside of A&E and a further 8 linked to a Caseworker for additional support that lasts approximately 6 weeks (for example: visits to referral partners, contacting family to mediate if required, liaison with other services to ensure that a support network is available, etc.) After the 6 weeks, if support is still required, the young person can be offered mentoring support for up to 6 months in order to connect them with community based services and help to build resilience.

Building sustainable capacity (trauma informed approaches)

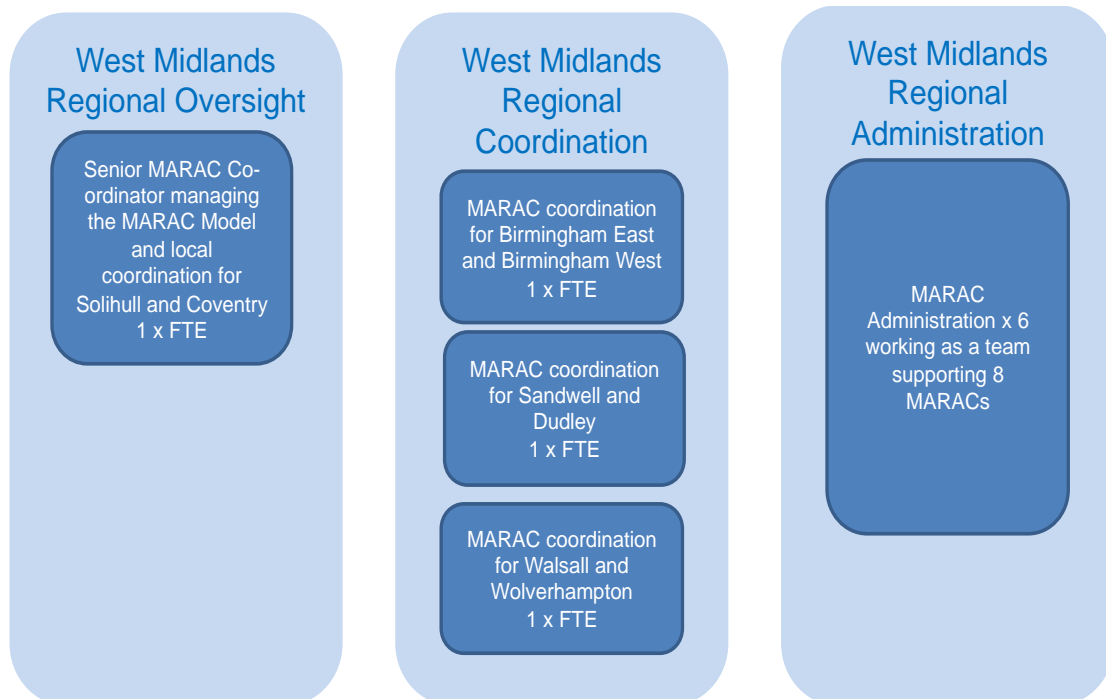
25. Rock Pool Life CIC were commissioned to provide the EIYF funded programme of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) awareness training, professional development and train the trainer provision. The provision is targeted to achieve training of 400+ practitioners by March 2020. This number has already been exceeded with 440 practitioners receiving training within Quarter 1. The breakdown of training provided over this period is as follows:
- 8 half day sessions covering an Introduction to ACEs awareness delivered to 266 practitioners
 - 12 full day sessions covering an Introduction to ACEs awareness delivered to 131 practitioners
 - 4 Train the Trainer sessions (3 days) delivered to 43 practitioners.
26. One of the key problems that this work has highlighted is the need for all of these activities to be sustained once the funding finishes at the end of March 2020. There will be significant gaps in provision, and government must consider long term funding to enable us to continue to respond appropriately.

Domestic Abuse

27. Supporting victims of domestic abuse is a key priority for the Police and Crime Commissioner. A significant amount of funding is invested in supporting victims and challenging the behaviour of perpetrators. In order to ensure that these

resources are providing value for money and supporting a consistent approach to the MARAC process, an operating model has been developed and agreed which will ensure that there is a consistent and effective approach for managing high risk victims of domestic abuse across the seven local authority areas.

28. A Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) is a local, multi-agency victim-focused meeting where information is shared on the highest risk cases of domestic abuse between different statutory and voluntary sector agencies
29. There are seven MARACs operating across the West Midlands Police Force Area. Each MARAC operates slightly differently depending on the local arrangements. The volume of cases within the local authority area will influence how often the meetings take place and the level of resources that have been dedicated to support the strategic and operational delivery of the MARAC process.
30. The operating model was welcomed by the seven local authorities in order to facilitate consistency, resilience, identification of cross border perpetrators/victims and longer term sustainability.
31. The working arrangements are being delivered via West Midlands Police who are road-testing the model in terms of ensuring that it provides sufficient capacity and robust processes to support effective MARACs across the West Midlands Police Force area. Delivery of the model will be regularly monitored by the OPCC and feedback will be sought from local MARAC representatives and local strategic/operational forums in terms of how the model is working for their local areas.
32. The table below sets out the structure across the 7 local authority areas.



33. This is an important project for the West Midlands if we are going to provide a consistent and high quality response to the highest risk victims of domestic abuse. Continued support and collaboration will be critical to the success of this new model which started in April 2019.

34. The table below gives a quick snapshot of the numbers of referrals to MARAC during Q1 (April-June). The total number of referrals received into the MARAC process during that time period is 1,315 with 1,208 accepted. Significant numbers of high risk victims are now being supported in a consistent process.

MARAC	Total Accepted MARAC Referrals	Total Withdrawn* MARAC Referrals	Total Referrals Received	% of demand
Birmingham East	167	22	189	14%
Birmingham West	257	14	271	21%
Coventry	104	16	120	9%
Dudley	136	7	143	11%
Sandwell	154	7	161	12%
Solihull	59	5	64	5%
Walsall	126	10	136	10%
Wolverhampton	205	26	231	18%
Total	1208	107	1315	

Key Achievements

35. There is now one version of the MARAC Referral Form being used across the West Midlands. The formatting and design cannot be amended which has allowed for absolute consistency. In addition, it has been very well received with positive feedback from the partners who are using it.
36. In addition to the referral form, partners have adapted well to the use of a single format for the MARAC agenda and various similar documents that form the new MARAC documentation suite.
37. There is now a single referral route for all MARAC referrals across the region, via an email to an inbox which is monitored 8am – 5pm Monday to Friday.
38. All referrals are reviewed by a MARAC Coordinator within 24 hours of receipt.
39. Within 48 hours they are processed, the presence of any crimes is considered and the referrer is invited to the MARAC meeting.

40. An IDVA notification system has been imbedded meaning that every MARAC victim is referred to a MARAC IDVA within 48 hours of receipt of the referral, regardless of their current engagement with that service. This serves to both inform the service of the impending MARAC hearing, and to ensure that no victim goes without the offer of support.
41. A referral management system has been built on Share Point which provides absolute transparency across the force for WMP users. It is designed to minimise the duplication of data inputting that MARAC resources so often fall foul of and offer automation wherever possible.
42. The functionality of the system includes but is not limited to:
 - WMP users can refer directly to MARAC using an online form.
 - Cases can be transferred from one MARAC to another at the click of a button.
 - MARAC actions are automatically recorded into a tracking database to allow for a robust action tracking process.
 - The region's most complex cases are logged and monitored.
 - Partners are now made aware whenever a victim leaves their area.
 - We are able to collect data that tells us more about our victims than ever before; how many are suffering from coercive control, how often was a knife used in the incident, how significant of a factor is conflict over child contact, etc.
43. The OPCC will continue to monitor the new structure, working with partners and delivery through WMP.

Domestic Homicide Reviews

44. Community Safety Partnerships have a statutory requirement to commission Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) under section 9(3) of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004 which came into force on 13 April 2011. A DHR is a review of the circumstances in which the death of a person aged 16 years or over that has, or appears to have, resulted from violence, abuse or neglect. Suicide can also be included where prompted by domestic abuse. DHRs should seek to determine what the relevant agencies and individuals involved in the case might have done differently that could have prevented harm or death, so that lessons can be learned from the case and those lessons applied in practice to prevent similar harm occurring again.
45. The OPCC has undertaken scoping in 2019-20 with a view to developing a regional model for the delivery of Domestic Homicide Reviews. The statutory responsibility for DHRs sit with the Chair of the CSP, and all want to retain local management of the process. We have established that a regional structure that looks at how we offer opportunities to improve on how the learning from DHR's is disseminated throughout the West Midlands is needed and supported by all the 7 CSP's This will lead to consistency of messages and value for money. Importantly we recognise that a regional approach to sharing the information from the recommendations within each DHR will improve the quality of learning, and our understanding of what works for future activity.

46. The learning and impact will focus on identifying 'what works' and develop best practice in response to DHR recommendations, which can be delivered at a local level, or scaled up for regional activity. This function will also ensure wide dissemination of learning from DHRs. Key responsibilities will include: creation of learning tools e.g. videos/ e briefs/ seminars and conferences; tracking of evidence to address DHR recommendations, and evaluation of impact of particular campaigns.
47. In addition, we will also centrally commission of the DHR chairs and authors with a central contract /list of approved Chairs and Authors. This would involve training and standardising the process for delivery, cost, reports etc.
48. This will go live from April 2020.

Offending and Reoffending

49. One of the key themes considered by the WMCSPP was the work being done across the West Midlands to address offending and reoffending. The WMCSPP looked at the impact of the New Chance project which is now in the process of being rolled out across the West Midlands, after a recommendation was made to the PCC from the WMCSPP. The project is an initiative funded by the OPCC, and is an early intervention approach to providing support for women who are identified as early entrants into the Criminal Justice system to support them away from further offending. This approach recognises the need for a multi-disciplinary approach to meet the needs of these offenders who are often from a vulnerable section of the population. The key aims of New Chance are to reduce reoffending and improve outcomes for women offenders by providing early holistic support. Key outcomes sought are: a reduction in reoffending rates, reductions in numbers going to court and numbers going to prison on short sentences. We are also looking for positive outcomes along the nine offending pathways, for example women into accommodation, managing debt, sustaining tenancies, drug and alcohol treatment, exiting sex work, children returned from care, removed from Child Protection plans etc.
50. In 2018/19 there were 4,995 female defendants of crimes recorded in the West Midlands force area. 37% of these were crimes recorded in Birmingham with the rest spread fairly evenly across the rest of the force area. 57% of these were given a charge or summons, 27% a community resolution, 14% a conditional caution.
51. This is the first stage in a wider ambition to develop infrastructure with our partners in line with devolution proposals for the West Midlands for the WJP to provide solutions for a Whole System Approach for women at risk of offending and for those involved in the CJS.

Youth Offending

52. The PCC allocates funding to each of the seven Youth Offending Teams across the West Midlands and services delivered through this grant will contribute to the national Youth Justice Board target of reducing first time entrants into the CJS. The PCC is looking for evidence to show that:

- The rate and/or seriousness of the offending has reduced since the point of entry and/or there is an improvement in behaviours for all young people that are being supported through the grant. – an example would be young people re-engaging with school.
- They have established partnership arrangements to deliver early intervention and prevention services
- There are timely and appropriate assessments for children at risk or in the early stages of criminality or entering the Youth Justice system
- There is internal monitoring of the quality of the services being delivered.
- We have also requested that all YOTs engage in benchmarking processes to share and disseminate regional learning and good practice. We aim to be able to look at the funding allocated and how it is being used to affect young offenders, and also to see how they work together to disseminate and share good practice.

Drug Intervention Programme – Arrest Referral in Custody

53. One of the significant pieces of work undertaken responds to the PCC's Drugs Strategy, while also responding to the offending and reoffending agenda. It was carried out by the OPCC, Public Health and West Midlands Police. The report is attached at Annex 1. It is important to ensure that there are effective pathways, across policing and the CJS, for engaging those people with drug misuse and offending issues in appropriate drug treatment and support services.
54. The PCC has committed £1,250,000 to deliver a force area wide, custody- and court-based, substance misuse referral service that will engage people with substance use disorder in contact with the police with treatment and other support services. The project is currently out to tender, and the intention is to have a live service from January 2020.

Future Plans

55. The WMCSPP will continue to provide an advisory role, and the OPCC will continue to ensure that effective links with the various other relevant partnerships and meetings are maintained to ensure that the objectives of the Partnership and ultimately, those of the Police and Crime Commissioner are met.
56. The WMCSPP will continue to respond to the priorities of the PCC as set out in the Terms of Reference.
57. The OPCC will continue to meet with the Heads of Community Safety on a bi-monthly basis; this gives us a forum to bring together the local and emerging issues from local

CSPs and ensure they are raised at the force level. The OPCC also has Officer representation at each of the 7 CSPs, along with the DPCC, APCC and Board Members.

Financial Implications

58. The PCC's Community Safety Budget for 2019/20 is £3,863,303 and the Intention of the PCC is to maintain the budget at the same level for 2020/21. The tables below set out how the funding has been allocated for this financial year, and predicted spend for 2020/21.

Activity 2019/20	(£)
19/20 Allocation	£3,863,303
Carryover 2018/19	£668,762
Total	£4,532,065
Force Wide Commissioning Allocation	
Youth Offending	£652,108
MARAC	£354,000
Domestic Abuse (IDVAs)	£297,564
Domestic Homicide Reviews	£330,000
CSP Analysts	£200,000
Arrest Referral	£1,000,000
New Chance	£267,584
Bleed Control Kits	£38,400
Sub-Total	£3,139,656
Local Commissioning Allocations	
7 local CSPs	£1,380,201
Provisional allocation total	£4,519,857
Remaining 2019/20 WMCSF budget	£12,208

Activity 2020/21	(£)
2020/21 Allocation	£3,863,303
Carry Forward from 2019/20	£ 12,208
Sub-total	£3,875,511
Force Wide Commissioning Allocations	
Youth Offending	£652,108
MARAC	£354,000
Domestic Abuse (IDVAs)	£297,564
Domestic Homicide Reviews	£330,000
CSP Analysts	£200,000
Arrest Referral (Drug Interventions Programme) recommendation by WMCSP 070219	£250,000
New Chance	£267,584
Alcohol Related Violence	£ 60,000
Alcohol Related Violence – Early Intervention for Conditional Cautions	£ 60,000
Sub-Total	£2,101,256
Local Commissioning Allocations	
7 local Community Safety Partnerships	£1,500,000
Provisional allocation remaining	£ 154,255

Legal Implications

59. Schedule 9 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 provides Commissioners with the powers to award crime and disorder grants to any organisations and projects they consider will help them achieve their crime prevention and wider priorities.

Recommendations

25. The board is asked to note the progress made by the WMCSP during the last 18 months, and since the last report to Board in November 2018. This report highlights the additional capabilities realised by the WMCSP, value for money and economies of scale realised due to force wide commissioning.

Author: Alethea Fuller

Job Title: Head of Policy and Commissioning, Police and Crime Commissioner West Midlands

