



## COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

*UPDATE ON ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN NPT*

November 2021

# Officers

## NPTCBC

- Chris Millis – Head of Education Development
- Claire Jones – Strategic Manager, Partnerships and Community Cohesion
- Elinor Wellington – Principal Officer, Community Safety
- Sarah Williams – Anti Social Behaviour Reduction Coordinator

## South Wales Police

- Superintendent Mark Brier, Western BCU
- Chief Inspector Nia Hughes, Western BCU



# Background & Context



The Crime and Disorder Act (1998), as amended by the Police Reform Act (2002), places a statutory obligation on local authorities and the Police to form multi-agency partnerships in order to reduce crime and disorder across the local authority area.

Safer Neath Port Talbot Partnership operates a multi-agency partnership approach to community safety and crime and disorder issues.

As a partnership, we are committed to working together to achieve sustainable reductions in crime, fear of crime and anti social behaviour as well as providing practical crime prevention and community safety advice and reassurance.

Safer Neath Port Talbot is made up of the following statutory partners:

- Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council
- South Wales Police
- Swansea Bay University Health Board
- Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
- National Probation Service

# Background & Context

NPTCBC Community Safety Team coordinate the quarterly Safer NPT Partnership Board meetings.



The current priorities of the partnership are:-

- Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence
- Anti Social Behaviour
- Substance Misuse
- Cyber Crime and Scams
- County Lines

# Background & Context

- The CSP is jointly chaired by NPTCBC and SWP
- Over the past 18 months, the general picture around Community Safety has drastically changed.
- There have been increased demands in many service areas, directly attributed to the Covid-19 pandemic, lockdown & subsequent changing restrictions.
- Some issues in our town centres & communities have increased & become more visible.
- We have a strong CSP, which is well attended, and at which partners actively participate and we have a shared purpose
- Everyone plays their part, but it is important to remember the role of the Council's team and that of the respective partners
- The police are the lead agency for ASB, and other criminal matters
- The Council's Community Safety Team have no enforcement responsibilities and limited resource, but bring partners together to find solutions



# Neath Town Centre

In July 2021, members were given a detailed presentation on the issues of Anti Social Behaviour in Neath Town Centre, and are summarised below



SWP Operation Lilieum continues

Partnership meetings continue, whereby relevant agencies will attend and provide recent updates on their ongoing work. This includes; Licensing, CCTV, Business Crime Reduction Partnership, WCADA, Salvation Army, Housing Options and others.

There is a rolling action plan, to ensure work continues and is progressed. Regular reports are fed into the Safer NPT Partnership Board.

# Neath Town Centre



A series of actions have been agreed or are ongoing;

- Police Operation initiated and is ongoing
- Issuing of s35'S, Community Protection Warnings / Notices and Criminal Behaviour Orders to prolific offenders
- Communications Plan to keep residents updated on ongoing work, and to encourage reporting
- Community Safety Engagement Events (restrictions permitted) to speak with members of the public and answer their questions
- Promotion of the Business Crime Reduction Partnership to businesses, traders and licensed premises
- Licensing have visited all businesses to advise and remind about responsible sales of alcohol
- CCTV monitoring of 'hotspot' areas has changed
- Continued outreach support for those with complex needs
- Ongoing supported for residents of the Ambassador with rehousing, outreach, diversionary activities

# Port Talbot Town Centre

In recent months there have been growing concerns from traders and residents, regarding increased ASB in areas of the town centre.

Operation Sudbury has been implemented, which sees increased patrols in the town centre. Community Protection Warnings have been issued to prolific offenders.

Current reports remain low, but there is an increased focus in encouraging people to report what they see, to ensure we have a true reflection of the issues.

In October a partnership meeting was called, including the Leader, Chief Executive, Stephen Kinnock MP and local ward Councillors. Also in attendance were and various internal and external partners. Number of actions noted and further meeting tba

These meetings will coincide with the Recovery Group, coordinated by the Town Centre Manager, and work of the Business Improvement District (Viva Port Talbot)





# Briton Ferry



During summer of 2020 partners met to discuss concerns from local residents about particular areas of Briton Ferry and an increase in Anti-Social Behaviour.

This differed to our town centre issues in that it could attributed to a small number of individual properties. We worked closely with the local Councillors, Housing Options and Environmental Health to alleviate some of those concerns.

In recent months there have been additional concerns from residents, with South Wales Police hosting a very well attended PACT Meeting.

There is a need for further work with Environmental Health, Police, Youth Justice and other partners.

During summer of 2021 Community Safety have hosted engagement events with the public to promote various campaigns, share messages on crime prevention and to encourage reports through to the appropriate agencies.

## Neighbour Disputes

Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown, there has been an increase in the number of contacts to the Council and the Police over neighbour disputes. Residents now spend far more time at home, which has led to more disputes and complaints.



The ASB Coordinator works closely with the Police, Housing Providers and Environmental Health on these matters, offering mediation and in some cases Good Neighbour Agreements to try to alleviate some concerns.

In some instances, these are civil matters and cannot be addressed by the partnership.

## Scarlett Avenue Car Park

A small number of complaints have been received by residents over the use of the open car park. Including; speeding cars and noise nuisance. Community Safety have visited residents to offer advice and encourage reporting. This is a council owned car park and Environment colleagues are exploring options to alleviate issues and concerns.

# Street Vulnerability MARAC's



Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown, the SV MARAC's have continued, despite changes to Homelessness legislation, meaning that all street homeless people must be accommodated by the local authority.

Usually homelessness does not come alone and is associated with a number of other factors like loss of employment, alcohol or substance addiction, poor mental health, fleeing domestic abuse.

The SV MARAC is coordinated by NPT Community Safety and chaired by South Wales Police. Local individuals are discussed by a number of agencies and an action plan is agreed to ensure they are appropriately supported and to monitor their progress.

This area of work has significant links with the reduction of Anti-Social Behaviour in our communities, and has mobilised well during the pandemic.



**South Wales  
Police**