

Meeting of:	<b>Homes and Safe Communities Scrutiny Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>Wednesday, 12 May 2021</b>
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	Homes and Safe Communities
Report Title:	Update on the Community Safety Strategy Action Plan
Purpose of Report:	To provide Scrutiny Committee Members with an update on the progress made to deliver the Safer Vale Strategy Action plan.
Report Owner:	Miles Punter - Director of Environment and Housing
Responsible Officer:	Deb Gibbs - Principal Community Safety Officer
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	This report will affect all residents and therefore no individual ward Member consultation has been undertaken. The report has been reviewed by Officers from the Legal and Finance teams
Policy Framework:	This report is within the Policy Framework and Budget.
<p>Executive Summary:</p> <p>This report shares progress from the Safer Vale Strategy Action Plan. The Covid-19 pandemic lockdown came into force before the final Safer Vale Strategy was signed off by all five members of the Safer Vale Partnership. The need for partners to focus time and resources on responding to the immediate pressure presented by the global Covid-19 pandemic meant that there was a significant delay to the Strategy being adopted and therefore a delay in the implementation of the Strategy Action Plan. The anticipated sign off also gave an opportunity for the partnership membership to consider necessary amendments that were needed to better reflect some of the important partnership and service changes that would need to be reflected in the Strategy Action Plan as a result of Covid-19.</p> <p>The report provides an update on the progress achieved by the partnership in its first quarter (quarter 1 October -December 2020), following the implementation of the action plan from September 2020.</p> <p>In the first quarter of delivery, 84% of planned activities outlined in the Partnership's Action Plan received a green performance reflecting the positive progress made during the period. 11% of planned activities were attributed an amber performance rating and 5% received a red performance rating.</p>	

The 6 activities which had an amber or red performance rating, can all be attributed to either needing to allocate resources elsewhere as a result of the pressures on services due to Covid-19 or as a direct result of prohibitive measures relating to the Covid-19 restrictions.

The Safer Vale Partnership Action Plan is a working document which will be kept under constant review and updated as required.

## **Recommendations**

1. That Scrutiny Members consider the progress made against the Safer Vale Partnership Action Plan.
2. That Scrutiny Members consider the partnership work being undertaken to tackle crime and disorder in the Vale of Glamorgan.

## **Reasons for Recommendations**

1. To provide Scrutiny with the overview of progress being made towards driving forward and achieving its commitments in the Safer Vale Partnership Strategy.
2. To ensure that the council function of the Safer Vale Partnership is effectively assessing its performance of duties outlined in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to work with other statutory partners to formulate and implement strategies to tackle local crime and disorder in the area.

## **1. Background**

- 1.1 The Safer Vale Partnership underwent a review and restructure in 2019 as part of the development of a new strategy that would underpin the work of the Partnership from 2020 to 2023.
- 1.2 The restructure resulted in a reduction in the strategic group membership, and a revision of the agenda and frequency of meetings. This 'main' partnership board was renamed the Safer Vale Partnership 'Strategic Board'. The remit of this board was redefined as being responsible for setting the strategic direction of the partnership and keeping higher level oversight and risk management of the partnership's activities. An additional group was created just underneath the Strategic Board and called the Safer Vale Operational Group. This group meets every two months and is responsible for driving forward the Safer Vale Partnership Strategy through the delivery of outcomes from the Strategy's Action Plan.
- 1.3 The Safer Vale Partnership is made up of South Wales Police, the Vale of Glamorgan Local Authority, South Wales Fire and Rescue, Cardiff and the Vale University Health and the National Probation Service. Additional membership on the operational group includes the Cardiff and Vale Area Planning Board and Change Grow Live, as the lead commissioned service for instant access substance misuse services in the Vale.

- 1.4** In March 2020, the Safer Vale Partnership Strategy had completed the necessary consultation processes and was ready for the final sign off and adoption by all partner agencies. The final sign off was delayed due to Safer Vale Strategic meeting cancellations as a result of the global Covid-19 pandemic, meaning the Strategy was not signed off by the Partnership in time for an April 2020 launch.
- 1.5** With all statutory services working hard to develop and adapt to new ways of working and most partners dealing with huge increases in service demand, the Strategy only received signed off in September 2020 and received Cabinet approval in October 2020 (Cabinet Minutes C346A refers).
- 1.6** The Action Plan which accompanies the Strategy sets out actions against the Strategy's four priority areas:
- Prevent and reduce Crime and Disorder. The Partnership will work to prevent and reduce crime and anti-social behaviour to keep people who live, work and visit the Vale safe and free from the fear of crime.
  - Engage. The Partnership will improve the way it connects with, involves and informs the community to increase awareness, the feeling of belonging and positive community cohesion in the Vale.
  - Safeguard. The Partnership will work to safeguard the most vulnerable in the community.
  - Work together. The Partnership is committed to strengthening partnership working to improve efficiencies and problem solving.

## **2. Key Issues for Consideration**

- 2.1** It is important to note that during the first quarter of the action plan (October 2020 - December 2020), all partner agencies were working through challenging times, where responding to the adverse effects of the global pandemic remained and continues to remain the priority which has had an immediate burden on resources. Regardless of this, the Partnership has managed to fulfil the majority of their obligations in the Safer Vale Partnership Action Plan.
- 2.2** The Action Plan is driven by the Safer Vale Operational Group which had to significantly alter their structure at various times since March 2020. Originally the group met through conference calls, as the only mechanism accessible to all partners (partners did not all have the authorisation to access the same remote communication platforms) however these conference calls were found to be a costly solution. As the effects of the pandemic had a bigger impact on partner's resources, the operational group became a 'tactical group' where meetings were

postponed and, in their place, a partnership update spreadsheet was created. This was used to collate all necessary partner information and was circulated on a monthly basis. This was a very successful response, enabling all partners to have rapid up to date information which was crucial during a period of such rapid change and the accompanying action log enabled partners to provide joint responses where necessary. Normal meetings were resumed in October 2020 before returning to virtual updates in January 2021 following an increase in the effects of the latest lockdown.

- 2.3** A copy of the updated Action Plan is attached at Appendix A.
- 2.4** In the first quarter of delivery, 84% of planned activities outlined in the Partnership's Action Plan received a green performance reflecting the positive progress made during the quarter. 11% of planned activities were attributed an amber performance rating and 5% received a red performance rating.
- 2.5** The 6 activities that received an amber (4 activities) or red (2 activities) performance rating, can all be attributed to either needing to allocate resources elsewhere as a result of the pressures on services due to Covid-19, or as a direct result of prohibitive measures relating to the Covid-19 restrictions.
- 2.6** The two red performance ratings relate to designing and distributing new home starter packs that include community information and useful information for new tenants on understanding and dealing with any ASB issues; and the creation of a short partnership video that informs the public on who the partnership is made up of and what the purpose and remit of the partnership is within the Vale of Glamorgan. The first action was delayed as a result of time pressures on the team caused by Covid-19 and the second activity has been delayed as a result of the team being physically unable to carry out the planned filming as a result of Covid-19 restrictions.
- 2.7** The actions applicable to quarter 2 pick out a number of specific themes relating to the different priority areas:
  - 2.7.1** Under the priority "prevent and reduce crime and disorder in the Vale of Glamorgan, the partnership made specific commitments to carry out activities that
    - improve data intelligence and information sharing. This has included the creation of databases to improve the ways in which information is recorded for performance monitoring and trend settings across the different community safety areas.
    - to engage the community in delivery of community solutions to local problems.
    - to invest in preventative and early intervention approaches.

- to adopt a consistent and trauma informed approach across agencies in response to ASB and Crime
  - to support the delivery of partnership delivery plans.
- 2.7.2 Under the priority "engage" the partnership quarterly activity has focused on activities to
- engage the community in the delivery of community led solutions to local problems
  - improve awareness of the Safer Vale Partnership
- 2.7.3 Under the priority "safeguard" the partnership activity has focused on activities to
- improve engagement with those who have experienced vulnerabilities
  - improve the identification of vulnerabilities
  - improve early intervention
  - implement the VAWDASV objectives.
- 2.7.4 Under "work together", the partnership has committed work to
- improve data intelligence and information sharing
  - improve resource sharing and joint working
- 2.8** One notable area of success has been the partnerships work towards improving data systems. In the original workshops to develop the strategy and action plan, an area of improvement that was repeatedly mentioned as needed under all of the priority areas was new ways of recording and managing data. The creation of new data systems has meant that the team are able to bring relevant and accurate data reflecting the current state of community safety across the Vale to the operational groups where joint action plans and targeted interventions can be developed.
- 2.9** A further positive development has been in the Partnership's communication of work and data in order to improve communication and inform partners of areas of work that are of relevance and of interest to other partners and stakeholders. The improvement over the last two quarters has been largely based around

social media presence and increases in membership are being recorded to monitor the continued impact. Another improvement has been in the creation of Highlight Reports (attached at Appendix B). The highlight reports are an 'easy to read' snapshot of the activity that has occurred over the course of that month. The feedback from stakeholders and partners has been that the reports are very useful in providing the necessary oversight to help make joint decisions and improve understanding of some of the wider issues that impact on partners' areas of work. Based on feedback from partners, the highlight reports have been extended since January to include an 'in focus' page where each month a different area of community safety work is discussed in more detail.

### **3. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?**

- 3.1** Long Term: The Safer Vale Partnership action plan actively seeks to reduce crime and disorder in the long term and to create sustainable solutions for those who are victims of crime and disorder in the Vale.
- 3.2** Preventative: The Safer Vale Partnership Action plan has a particular focus on the prevention of crime and disorder. The strategy requires partners to share information to create effective preventative responses.
- 3.3** Integration: The Safer Vale Partnership Action Plan has been adopted by all partners and integrated within existing programmes of work.
- 3.4** Collaboration: The Safer Vale Partnership Action Plan is a piece of work developed by all partners and will be delivered and monitored collaboratively.
- 3.5** Involvement: Residents of the Vale of Glamorgan were consulted as part of the strategy development and further consultation will be undertaken to measure if there has been a reduction in crime and disorder in the long term and to create sustainable solutions for those who are victims of crime and disorder in the Vale.

### **4. Resources and Legal Considerations**

#### **Financial**

- 4.1** There are no direct resource implications associated with this report. The Safer Vale Partnership Action Plan is being delivered using existing partnership funding. Any unforeseen changes or amendments that require funding will be subject to the Safer Vale Partnership seeking external /partnership funding.

### **Employment**

- 4.2** There are no employment implications in respect of the Safer Vale Partnership Strategy.

### **Legal (Including Equalities)**

- 4.3** The delivery of the Safer Vale Partnership Action plan is a statutory requirement under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.
- 4.4** The action plan can be made available in Welsh.

## **5. Background Papers**

Crime and Disorder Act 1998



PRIORITY 1: PREVENT AND REDUCE OFFENDING

Key RAG Status	
Behind Target	Behind Target
At risk of delay	At risk of delay
On track	On track

DELIVERY PLAN ITEM	NO.	HOW CAN WE DO THIS?	RESPONSIBLE PARTNERS	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	MONITORING					DEADLINE	COMMENTS	PRIORITY CROSS REFERENCE	SPECIFIC ACTION POINT
					Indicator	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4				
Improve data intelligence and information sharing	2	Routinely share relevant Substance Misuse services data with the Problem Solving Group	APB	Eleri Probert	Number of substance misuse cases discussed			0		Ongoing	Information shared as and when appropriate		
	4	Liaise with partners to look at repeat callers to all services and how best to use the PSG to inform all agencies of the ASB being committed by frequent fliers.	POLICE / AMBULANCE /HEALTH/COUNCIL	Stacey Evans/Amy Forsyth	Process in Place Y/N Number of frequent flier cases cross referenced			3		Jan-21	Ambulance service and ASD team are currently trialling an open communication process to flexibly discuss clients who are frequent fliers to either agencies. These clients are then discussed at PSG	P4	
	5	Continue to process all ASB referrals onto Niche within 2 working days	COUNCIL	Nathan Crothers	Number of ASB referrals processed in two days			314 referrals		Ongoing			
	6	Create a database for recording community safety activity that enables efficient data extraction for monthly monitoring	COUNCIL	Stacey Evans	New database created Y/N			Y		Dec-20	A new database for ASB, Community Cohesion and Engagement has been created which records monthly information to assist the team to monitor trends, inform future decision making and measure performance of the team against previous data sets.		
	7	Cross reference domestic abuse data with information from community mapping to look at prevalence rates against availability of support and neighbourhood demographic across the Vale	COUNCIL	Amy Watkins	Cross referencing exercise complete Y/N			Y		Dec-20	The team cross referenced domestic abuse ward data against community mapping. Domestic abuse services are spread equally across the Vale with the majority of support offered by Atal y Fro	P3	3.10
	8	Create a database that enables the identification of changes and trends regarding domestic abuse	COUNCIL	Julie Grady	New database created Y/N			Y		Dec-20	Created	P3	
Engage the community in delivering community led solutions to local problems	10	Promote the use of Community Groups particularly in crime hot spot areas	ALL PARTNERS	Georgia Williams	Number of new members					Ongoing	The team have revamped Rural Watch and Neighbourhood Watch. Moving forward, efforts will be concentrated on revamping and promoting Paws on Patrol. Currently working on mechanism to routinely gather information regarding new recruits.	P2	2.5, 2.27
	12	Increase information shared within the community regarding community safety activity.	COUNCIL/POLICE	Georgia Williams	Number of releases / number of community reaches			97		Ongoing	In the third quarter 97 posts were issued regarding community safety information on social media.	P2	2.14
	13	Create a bimonthly release on social media informing the public of facts regarding the domestic abuse incidents.	COUNCIL	Becky Lane	Number of releases and number of reaches			3 Monthly highlight reports 5 Domestic Abuse Campaigns		Ongoing	A monthly highlight report is created informing residents and stakeholders.	P2	2.14
To invest in preventative and early intervention approaches	15	Design and distribute a New Home Community Safety Pack to maintain a Safer Vale and encourage a cohesive community.	COUNCIL	Stacey Evans	Number of packs					Ongoing	This was put on hold as a result of Covid-19.	P2, P3	
	17	Continue to offer target hardening to victims of domestic abuse	COUNCIL/POLICE	Amy Watkins	Number of properties % Feel safer % Happy with service			22 100% 100%		Ongoing	22 homes have received target hardening during the quarter. Services are continuing to be delivered throughout covid-19.	P3	
	18	Continue to provide a service for standard and medium risk PPNs.	COUNCIL	Amy Watkins	Number of PPNs processed in 72 hours			178 100%		Ongoing	Support services are still operating during Covid - 19 and appropriate referrals are being made.	P3	
To adopt a consistent and trauma informed approach across agencies in response to ASB and Crime	19	Review deliberate Fire Incidents to determine Fire Setting behaviour with Fire Crime & Community Safety Dept. Work in partnership with local policing teams to develop engagement opportunities for the Problem Solving Group (PSG)	FIRE	Andy Morgan/ Roger Magan							Already established & Ongoing Review Apr 21		
	20	Encourage the adoption of a trauma informed approach and Psychologically Informed Environments within all substance misuse services	APB	Eleri Probert							The APB are currently in the process of recommissioning services where a trauma informed approach will be expected at the core of substance misuse service delivery.		
Support the delivery of partnership plans	32	Work with partners in the Youth Offending Service to support the delivery of the Youth Justice Blueprint	ALL PARTNERS	Paula Barnett						Ongoing	The SVP continue to support the operations of the Youth Justice Blueprint. All outcomes relating to this are recorded in the Youth Justice Action Plan		
	33	Work with partners in the National Probation Service to support the delivery of the National Probation Service work plan	ALL PARTNERS	Rebecca Zammit						Ongoing	The SVP continue to support the operations of the National Probation Service . All outcomes relating to this are recorded in the National Probation Service Work Plan.		

PRIORITY 2 ENGAGE OUR COMMUNITIES

Key	
	Behind Target
	At risk of delay
	On track

DELIVERY PLAN ITEM	NO.	HOW CAN WE DO THIS?	RESPONSIBLE PARTNER	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	MONITORING				DEADLINE	COMMENTS	PRIORITY CROSS REFERENCE	SPECIFIC ACTION POINTS	
					Indicator	Q1	Q2	Q3					Q4
Engage the community in delivery of community led solutions to local problems	7	Source alternative platform for messaging the community	COUNCIL	Stacey Evans	Options paper for new messaging platforms			Rural Watch - 141 Neighbourhood Watch - 204 Airport Watch - 135 Safer Vale - 216 Community Safety News - 3314		Dec-20	The Community Messaging system has migrated to Vale Connect. This PI will be altered to record the number of new members to the system.	P1	
	9	Create a calendar of dates relating to domestic abuse events and national days to ensure local campaigns are run and the community are engaged appropriately.	COUNCIL	Becky Lane	Calendar of dates created  Number of awareness raising initiatives			Y  5		Dec-20	Calendar of dates has been created and published on Safer Vale Partnership's Social Media Pages	P3	2.14
	12	Utilise social media platforms to create polls to engage the community and gather resident feedback	COUNCIL	Georgia Williams	Number of Polls			5 Polls		Ongoing	Polls are being utilised via Facebook and have been an effective way of gaging resident's opinions across the Vale.		
Improve Awareness of the Safer Vale Partnership	14	Encourage Safer Vale involvement with planned events in Vale service area such as station open days & Community based charity events etc. Encourage & Advertise Safer Vale workshop days at Fire stations within the Vale communities.	FIRE	Andy Morgan/Roger Magan						Dec-20	All planned events had to be cancelled due to Covid -19, however plans for when restrictions might end are being looked into and early discussi		
	15	Coordinate the creation of a short video between partners to describe the Safer Vale Partnership	ALL PARTNERS	Georgia Williams	Video created Y/N			N		Jul-20	Due to Covid-19 this action has been postponed until partners can more easily interact and once service pressures have reduced. Until then, efforts are continuing via social media posts to improve the awareness of the Safer Vale Partnership.	P4	
	16	Create a communications schedule that sees a frequent and consistent release of information to the public concerning Community Safety utilising a variety of communication platforms.	COUNCIL	Georgia Williams	Schedule created  Number of releases			Y  97		Jul-20	Schedule has been created and the team work together to send out messages to residents regarding community safety in keeping with local and national awareness raising days.	P1	1.9, 1.10, 2.8
	18	Create an induction for new Board Members to understand their role and the ultimate purpose of the partnership	COUNCIL	Benni Lepine	New induction created Y/N			Y		Jul-20	New induction pack has been created, tested and signed off by the Safer Vale Partnership Strategic Board.	P4	

PRIORITY 3 WORK TO SAFEGUARD THE MOST VULNERABLE IN OUR COMMUNITIES

KEY	
	Behind
	At risk of delay
	On track

DELIVERY PLAN ITEM	HOW CAN WE DO THIS?	RESPONSIBLE PARTNER	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	MONITORING				DEADLINE	COMMENTS	CROSS REF WITH PRIORITY	SPECIFIC ACTION POINT	
				Indicator	Q1	Q2	Q3					Q4
Improve engagement with those who have experienced vulnerabilities	1 Continue to progress the established volunteer scheme within service & Fire Cadets.	FIRE	Andy Morgan/Roger Magan	Number of new recruits					Ongoing	Volunteer scheme continues well with meetings occurring remotely where needed.		
	8 Ensure attendance at SEEdS meetings to create a link with the DAARC service.	COUNCIL	Amy Watkins	No. of SEEdS meetings attended.					Ongoing	SEEdS meetings no longer require professional support and meet as service users so meeting attendance no longer possible. Ongoing communication channels open.	P4	
Improve the identification of vulnerability	10 Increase awareness of Clare's law	COUNCIL	Becky Lane	Number of Clare's Law Applications			13		Ongoing	Work has been undertaken to increase the awareness of Clare's Law. The figures for Clare's Law	P2	
	11 Continue the roll out of the National Training Framework for violence against women, domestic abuse and sexual violence.	COUNCIL	Amy Watkins	Number of individuals trained  Number of Vale of Glamorgan Council Staff					Ongoing	The National Training Framework is now in the process of rolling out group 2 training. All sessions are online and have been rolled out as planned.	P4	
Improve early intervention	16 Fire, Road, Water & Community safety which cover elements of ASB around these areas already being delivered to KS1 -KS4 within SW Schools. Review and delivery of joint partners safety message in relation to ASB.	FIRE	Roger Magan/Andy Morgan						Already established Review of Message Apr 21	Covid-19 lockdown has meant that the delivery in schools has not been possible however all modules are ready for roll out once pupils have returned to full		
	18 Roll out training for Safeguarding	COUNCIL	Natasha James	No. of training sessions delivered					Ongoing		P4	
	19 Improve Tension Monitoring across the Vale	COUNCIL/POLICE	Georgia Williams/ Jeff Lewis	No. of tension monitoring forms completed.			6		Ongoing	Increase in number of reports. Meetings were held with Vale housing to increase numbers or referrals coming to the ASB team from Vale Council housing. This has seen an increase in the number of tension monitoring referrals and has encouraged a further discourse around joint working	P1	
	22 Promote Iris + in schools and colleges	COUNCIL	Becky Lane	Number of promotion days					Jul-20	Iris project trial in schools was not progressed as a result of Covid-19. This action has been closed.	P1	
	23 Support education to launch the Encompass Programme	COUNCIL	Julie Grady	Encompass successfully launched Y/N					Jul-20	National operation by South Wales Police where each PPN goes to ever MASH to notify schools. The Vale of Glamorgan provide additional information to schools where a heightened risk is known.	P4	
Implement the VAWDASV objectives	30 Work with partners to ensure the relevant VAWDASV objectives are implemented	ALL PARTNERS	Julie Grady	VAWDASV monitoring submitted to Welsh Government Y/N					Ongoing	Quarterly monitoring submitted to Welsh Government	P4	
Ensure that Domestic Homicide Reviews are conducted	31 Coordinate and manage the prompt review of any domestic homicides that occur in the Vale in line with the SVP's statutory responsibility	ALL PARTNERS	Deb Gibbs	All DHRs completed in given timeframe.			No Domestic Homicides.		When Needed	No domestic homicides in quarter three.	P4	

PRIORITY 4 WORK TOGETHER

Key	
	Behind
	At risk of delay
	On track

DELIVERY PLAN ITEM		HOW CAN WE DO THIS?		RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	MONITORING				DEADLINE	Comments	CROSS REF WITH PRIORITIES	SPECIFIC ACTION POINTS
					Indicator	Q1	Q2	Q3				
Improve data intelligence and information sharing	5	Work with the community, third sector and partners to improve the reporting of hate crime.	COUNCIL	Georgia Williams	Number of reports of hate crime Community understanding of hate crime					Ongoing	Online package for hate crime training set up and ready to be rolled out. SWP currently training all front line officers to increase awareness	P1, P2
	6	Maintain existing good links with other areas to help inform best practice and wider information sharing.	COUNCIL	Stacey Evans	No of meetings with other areas			2		Ongoing	A wide range of Regional and All Wales groups are attended by the Community Safety team covering all aspects of community safety. These meeting are all attended via Teams.	P2
Improve resource sharing and joint working	14	Established volunteer scheme within service & Fire Cadets. Fire,Road, Water & Community safety which cover elements of ASB around these areas already being delivered to KS1 -KS4 within SW Schools. Review and delivery of joint partners safety message in relation to ASB.	FIRE	Roger Magan/ Andy Morgan							Already established, explore opportunities for ASB & Alcohol/Drugs info to be delivered during programmed drill sessions. Apr 21	
	24	Improve the APB website and widely advertise its availability as a local resource relating to substance misuse	APB	Eleri Probert							APB website content has been reviewed and updated. Decsison made to de-commission the website post April 2021. Content will transfer to UHB website	
Improve communication	28	Work with housing to create and monitor a process for reporting and sharing information where community safety clients are also housing tenants.	COUNCIL	Stacey Evans	No of referrals flagged to housing			20 subjects-34 victims		Ongoing	All ASB occurences shared with housing.	P1, P3 4.11, 4.6

## ASB

Comparison between February 2020 & February 2021

439  
Incidents in February 21

473  
Jan 2021

137  
Incidents in February 20

220%  
increase

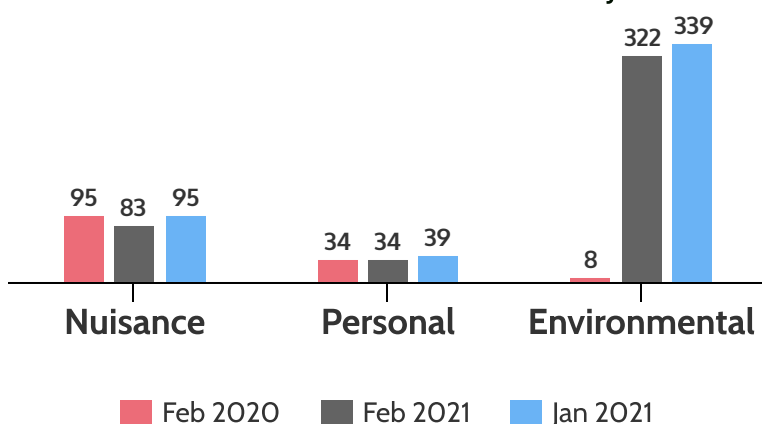
During February there has been an increase in non-essential travel to the Vale's beauty spot areas. The Council continue to work in partnership with the Police conducting joint enforcement operations. During this period we have seen a decrease in youth ASB.

101 ASB referrals in February 2020  
55 ASB referrals in February 2021

45%  
decrease

473 ASB incidents in January 2021  
Number of incidents has increased by 7% from last month.

The hotspots have been Penarth Esplanade, Barry Island, Ogmores-by-Sea and Southerdown with the amount of people travelling to these locations.



59  
Jan 2021

57  
PPNs received with consent  
February 21

85  
PPNs received with consent  
February 20

33%  
decrease

## DAARC

During February the DAARC team received a steady intake of referrals. Over 80% of the referrals were female victims and over 60% were between ex-partners. We will be working closely with partner agencies to address these concerns.

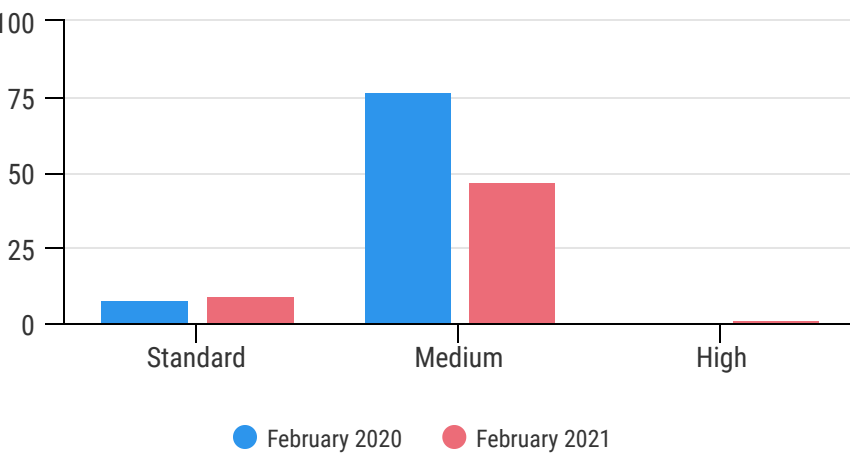
1 was COVID-19 RELATED (February 21)

During February 8 properties were target hardened. This has included the installation of CCTV, burglar alarms, changing of locks and has mainly been for high risk DV victims, ensuring they are able to remain safely in their homes.

12  
properties  
in Jan

During February 2020 the team target hardened 9 properties.

11%  
decrease



## MARAC

During February we have seen a decrease in the number of cases discussed at MARAC, however there has been an increase in overall high risk cases. Our twice weekly meetings have ensured a safeguarding plan was in place resulting in the reduction of cases being discussed at MARAC. We have seen an increase in external referrals from Probation, Health, Dyn Project & Atal y Fro.

41  
MARAC  
Cases

Feb  
20

28  
MARAC  
Cases

Feb  
21

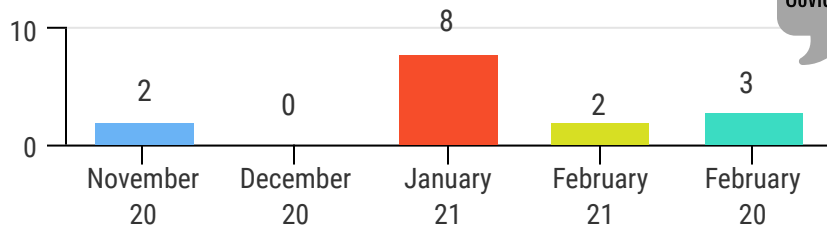
39 Jan  
2021

29  
Twice Weekly  
Meeting Cases

Feb  
21

## COMMUNITY COHESION

### Tension Monitoring Referrals



1  
Covid-19 Related

The tension monitoring form was received by Hafod in relation to issues in the car park area of one of their properties and ASB and noise nuisance issues.

## Social Media - Community Engagement

25

**Twitter**  
104 Posts

Impressions 47,110  
Engagements 1300

Likes 171  
Retweets 144

36

**Facebook**  
86 Posts

Reach 5662  
Shares 41

Likes 45

0

**Instagram**  
3 Posts

Comments 0  
Likes 10





## ASB and Community Cohesion

ASB and Community Cohesion are functions carried out by the Community Safety Team within the Council. The team are responsible for dealing with antisocial behaviour and community cohesion issues across the whole of the Vale of Glamorgan. The team work in partnership with a range of agencies both internally and externally to ensure that the most appropriate response is implemented.

The team is made up of one Police Officer, PCSO Support, a Community Cohesion Officer, one Community Safety Support Officer and a Community Safety Support Assistant who work under the direction of a Community Safety Manager.

The team are accountable to the Safer Vale Partnership and provide updates to the Safer Vale Partnership Strategic Board through work achieved against the Safer Vale Partnership Strategy Action Plan.

The team are responsible for receiving, recording and responding to instances of antisocial behaviour that are reported through to South Wales Police. The team also deal with referrals made through external partner agencies.

The team are based in Barry Police Station, collocated with South Wales Police and Probation. This collocation means the team can communicate easily and rapidly.

### A Partnership Approach



Complex or recurring issues are taken to the team's problem-solving group, which uses a multi-agency approach towards finding joint solutions to anti social behaviour.

Cases are discussed daily and the team attend daily briefings with South Wales Police to receive the most up to date and detailed information

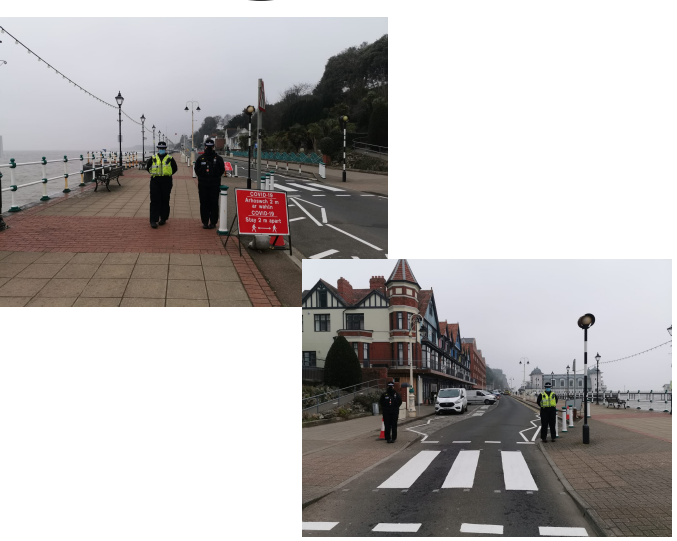
The problem solving group or PSG is made up of Community Safety, Registered Social Landlords, Probation, South Wales Police, Substance Misuse

## The Impact of Covid

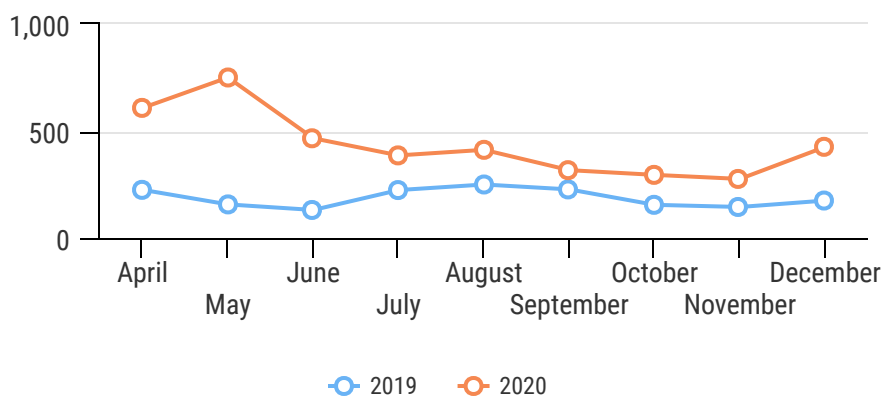
In the first quarter of lockdown (April-June 2020) the team dealt with 1,824 ASB incidents. This was a significant increase of 1311 (256%) from the 513 incidents that were received during the same period of the previous year.

This created a large resource pressure on the team who were also having to adapt to new ways of working with most of the team working from home and only a small number of individuals continuing to work from the police station to manage and coordinate demand.

The increase was a direct reflection of the impact of Covid-19 regulations for the lockdown with most of the incidents relating to gatherings that exceeded the authorised number or other breaches of the restrictions that were in place. The graph below shows the number of ASB incidents received in the first three quarters of 2020 compared with the same time period in 2019.



ASB Incidents in 2019 and 2020



As the lockdown restrictions began to ease towards the end of the first quarter and the beginning of the second quarter of 2020, the weather became much sunnier and hotter which had a further impact on the amount of antisocial activity and Covid-19 breaches being perpetrated across the Vale of Glamorgan with large groups of people (frequently young people) gathering and perpetrating ASB in the form of excess noise, litter, drunken behaviour, drug taking, vandalism and abusive behaviour.

Notable problematic hotspots across the Vale included Cosmeston, Ogmere by Sea, Barry Island, The Knap, Romilly Park, Penarth Esplanade, Maslin Park, Rhoose Point. Most gatherings ranged from between 10-50 individuals with some exceeding 100 individuals and gaining significant media attention. The most notable of these were gatherings on Barry Island and the major anti-social behaviour incident at Rivermouth Car Park Ogmere by Sea in June 2020 where in excess of 200 young people were gathered and perpetrated significant amounts of antisocial behaviour.

Although increased antisocial behaviour during the summer months through youth gatherings is a common issue in the Vale of Glamorgan, the impact of Covid-19, both in terms of the new restrictions and in terms of the heightened frustrations regarding the many aspects surrounding the global pandemic, meant that the ASB being perpetrated was both more intense and more challenging in nature.

Joint enforcement has become a standard approach and one that provides good outcomes in terms of community safety, especially where breaches are concerned.

With so many neighbours reporting neighbours for Covid-19 breaches and the generally escalating nature of neighbour disputes, there is a growing concern that the team will see an increase in ASB and other problems caused by escalating neighbour disputes. With no extra funding allocated to ASB throughout the pandemic, this is likely to be a strain on the team and their resources.

## An eye to the Future...