

**To:** Council  
**Date:** 25 January 2021  
**Report of:** Cllr Louise Upton, Cabinet Member for a Safer, Healthier Oxford  
**Title of Report:** Oxford Safer Communities Partnership Annual Update 2019-20

| <b>Summary and recommendations</b>         |   |
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| <b>Purpose of report:</b>                  | Provide a summary of OSCP's achievements in 2019-20             |
| <b>Key decision:</b>                       | No  |
| <b>Cabinet Member with responsibility:</b> | Cllr Louise Upton, Cabinet Member for a Safer, Healthier Oxford |
| <b>Corporate Priority:</b>                 | Strong and Active Communities.                                  |
| <b>Policy Framework:</b>                   | n/a   |
| <b>Recommendation(s): Note the report</b>  |   |

#### **Appendices:**

Appendix A – OSCP Rolling Plan 2020-21  
 Appendix B – OSCP Action Plan 2020-21

#### **Introduction and background**

1. The introduction of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 made statutory authorities responsible for crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour. A multi-agency partnership was established to encourage agencies to work together to address community safety concerns.
2. Oxford Safer Community Partnership (OSCP) meets on a quarterly basis to review community safety priorities, agreed at the beginning of the year and to delivery multi-agency plans to address these priorities.
3. The Oxford's Community Safety Partnership comprises of a number of agencies and organisations that include:
  - Oxford City Council (statutory authority responsible for the partnership)
  - Oxford Local Police Area,
  - Oxfordshire County Council's Youth Justice Service, Fire & Rescue Service, Trading Standards, and Children and Adult Social Care Services

- HM Prison and Probation Service
  - Thames Valley Community Rehabilitation Company
  - Oxfordshire University Hospital Trust,
  - South Central Ambulance Service,
  - Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group,
  - Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner,
  - Oxford Brookes University
  - University of Oxford
  - Turning Point
4. Each financial year OSCP Executive Board agrees a set of annual priorities based on an overview of crime and disorder:
- Address those issues affecting our communities including:
    - Public Spaces Drug Task Force will continue to tackle open space drug use and dealing in response to community concerns.
    - Support those vulnerable people that become homeless and end up rough sleeping on our streets.
    - Support our locality hubs during the country's lockdown to protect those that are most vulnerable.
    - Develop further plans to address anti-social behaviour in the city in response to our public consultation.
    - Support the work of the Prevent and Protect strands of the Counter-Terrorism strategy
  - Address serious and organised crime including:
    - Respond quickly to reports of cuckooing by supporting vulnerable adults.
    - Reduce the level of cycle crime in the city through the Bike Crime Reduction Partnership
    - Deliver Safer Streets activities to address burglary and other serious theft.
  - Reducing serious violence including:
    - Coordinate activity to address modern slavery, hate crime and alcohol-related disorder.
    - Continue to work with Oxfordshire County Council's Social Services and other statutory partners to tackle child exploitation.
    - Support the work of the Thames Valley Violence Reduction Unit
    - Continue to tackle domestic abuse and support the delivery of the government's Violence Against Women and Girls strategy
5. These priorities are detailed in OSCP's annual Rolling Plan 2020-21 (Appendix A) along with an overview of crime trends affecting Oxford, and information that addresses low and high levels of anti-social behaviour, including environmental issues affecting our communities.
6. The Plan also provide a summary of the work undertaken over the previous year. Some of the highlights of the work undertaken include

- Tackling organised crime groups to keep our communities safe from harm caused by the County Drug Lines operating from other cities, including addressing child exploitation.
  - Addressing the negative street culture in the city by tackling begging, drug abuse, street drinking and environmental crime.
  - Protecting our vulnerable residents from exploitation by drug gangs taking over their properties.
  - Providing a local response to the county-wide Modern Slavery Action Plan.
  - The Community Response Team undertaking environmental audits with Oxford Direct Services to prevent our communities being blighted with fly-tipping and litter.
  - Tackling domestic abuse and providing immediate support for victims to remain secure in their properties.
  - Working in partnership with Thames Valley Police to develop a local Hate Crime Action Plan.
  - Supporting those vulnerable chaotic victims that sex work and young people that are at risk of being sexually exploited.
  - Working with partners to address safeguarding responses under the Joint Operating Framework for Taxis and transporting vulnerable adults.
7. Covid 19 has seen many challenges and changes to our city with OSCP being integral in addressing community safety issues across Oxford. The partnership has been involved in:
- supporting locality hubs across the city;
  - identifying those vulnerable residents that required support and preventing isolation;
  - engaging with those vulnerable people that sleep on our streets, ensuring many of these clients had a bed to sleep in;
  - working with students to prevent the transmission of Covid-19;
  - addressing Covid breaches including issuing fines to those people that persistently breached the covid rules;
  - and working together to open Oxford City Centre, including the management of George Street and St Michael's Street road closures.

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| <b>Background Papers:</b> None |  |

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