



Safe & Sound (Dudley's Community Safety Partnership)

Strategic Assessment – Summary

Introduction

West Midlands Police – Partnership Analyst Liaison Team, have produced Dudley's Community Safety Partnership's Strategic Assessment 2018. This Strategic Assessment is produced in line with the Police and Justice Act 2006.

The Strategic Assessment is not a public document it is produced to inform the work of the Community Safety Partnership, inform its partners "business" and enable further work to be commissioned from the Partnership Analyst Liaison Team.

The Strategic Assessment takes into account crime types and trends as well as victims, offenders and locations. The analysts use data as well as intelligence to develop the Strategic Assessment and give inferences to direct further work and to suggest where issues should be explored further. In commissioning the Strategic Assessment the Chair of the Community Safety Partnership and the Head of Community Safety asked for the following locations to feature in the document - St. James Ward, St. Thomas Ward, Lye and Stourbridge North, Halesowen North and Halesowen South.

Key Findings

- Dudley remains the safest Borough within the West Midlands Police Force Area with the lowest crime rate per 1000 population
- Total recorded crime has increased within the Borough
- 31% of Total Recorded Crime can be attributed to vulnerability factors of Domestic Abuse, Child Abuse Hate Crime and offences against vulnerable adults
- Theft from shop and stall has continued to increase albeit at a reduced rate
- The peak age for offending is 26 to 35 years of age. This is the same peak age for other Borough within the West Midlands
- 14 years of age is a key age in terms of becoming a victim or offender in Dudley. (This index was not built in to other Strategic Assessments, however, the finding resonates with this life stage)
- There needs to be a better understanding of the causes and drivers of crime to inform offender management as well as early intervention and prevention opportunities.
- 50% of respondents to the British Retail Consortium stated that cyber-attacks are the biggest threat to the industry

The Strategic Assessment also takes into account horizon scanning in respect of local, national, and international trends, issues and events

Some local, national international factors to keep in view and to inform priorities are-

- HS2 (High Speed Travel Two)
- Brexit
- Housing Strategies
- Interest rate increases
- Universal Credit
- Emerging Technology
- Metro Expansion
- DY5 – Dudley’s Business and Innovation Enterprise
- Commonwealth Games

The Strategic Assessment also takes into account priorities identified through consultation. The top three identified were

- Ant-Social Behaviour
- Violent Crime
- Drug Misuse

Having received the draft Strategic Assessment at January’s Community Safety Partnership Board Meeting, a multi-agency group met to further consider the Strategic Assessment. It is recommend that the Community Safety Partnership adopt the following priorities for 2018/19:-

1. Reducing Reoffending and Reducing Repeat Victimisation
2. Community Cohesion (includes Prevent and Hate Crime)
3. Reducing Vulnerability – (including Substance Misuse, Mental Health, Modern Slavery and exploitation)
4. Domestic Violence and Abuse (including Violence Against Women and Girls Agenda)
5. Reducing Violent Crime
6. Road Traffic and Transport
7. Anti-Social Behaviour

Other priorities should be considered in light of any change in trends or legislative requirements.

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