DECISION-MAKER:		OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY MANAGEMENT		
		COMMITTEE		
SUBJECT:		SAFE CITY PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REVIEW		
DATE OF DECISION:		13 JANUARY 2022		
REPORT OF:		CHAIR OF THE SAFE CITY PARTNERSHIP		
		CONTACT DETAILS		
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STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

None

BRIEF SUMMARY

This report provides the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee (OSMC) with an update for 2020/21 on community safety in Southampton and the Safe City Partnership. It includes information on the recently completed Community Safety Strategic Needs Assessment, as well as an update on work to revise and update the Safe City Strategy. The data refers to the period April 2020 to March 2021 as this is the latest full year data available for analysis.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

(i)

That the Committee considers and notes this report.

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Chair requested that the OSMC receives an annual update on community safety in Southampton and the Safe City Partnership.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

2. None

DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)

Background

3. In April 2017, the Southampton Safe City Partnership and Southampton City Council agreed a three-year strategy to be delivered by March 2020. Progress against this strategy is regularly assessed by the Safe City Partnership and monitored in a scorecard. The strategy has now lapsed, and a new strategy has been delayed due to COVID19. A current working draft has been issued for consultation and will be brought forward for formal agreement early in 2022.

4.	Many of the priorities identified in the existing Safe City Strategy will not necessarily reflect the changes to a range of crime types, increased insight to contextual safeguarding risks or the emergence of new phenomena such as 'County Lines'. The review of the strategy in 2021 is therefore an opportunity to account for these changes, applying a COVID context to understanding how the pandemic has impacted communities and contributed to crime and disorder, as well as setting a forward-thinking plan for five years (2022 to 2027).
5.	The Partnership has identified three main priorities for keeping Southampton safe over the next, extended five-year period (2022 to 2027).
	 These are: Priority 1: Keeping people safe from harm Priority 2: Preventing and reducing offending Priority 3: Creating safe and stronger communities
	The current draft strategy is being reviewed following consultation feedback from the public, and the findings from the latest strategic assessment and annual Community Safety Survey, which took place in the autumn of this year and had the highest numbers of respondents (2,551) of any survey of this type in recent years.
6.	 There is a Statutory requirement for Community Safety Partnerships to undertake a 'Strategic Assessment' each year. The purpose is to assist the partnership in revising the Community Safety Strategy and as such it should include: An analysis of the levels and patterns of crime and disorder and alcohol and drug misuse in the area, Identification of changes in those levels and why these have occurred, Views of people living and working in the area, Recommendations for matters which should be prioritised.
	This year's Strategic Assessment has recently been completed and provides an overview of current and future crime trends, disorder and community safety issues affecting Southampton, some of which are outlined in this report.
7.	This report demonstrates how the partnership has aimed to deliver its strategic objectives and responded to local need, including the pandemic. It also responds to the latest Strategic Assessment (2020/21) and sets out next steps for the partnership and strategy.
	The full Strategic Assessment can be found at: https://data.southampton.gov.uk/community-safety/safe-city-assessment/
	This report should be read in conjunction with the Strategic Assessment report and summary slide-set.

Strat	egic Assessment
8.	Data included in the 2021 Strategic Assessment covering the period of April 2020 – March 2021 will be significantly impacted by the coronavirus pandemic and government restrictions imposed to limit the spread of the virus.
	Changes in police recorded crime over the last year should be interpreted considering coronavirus restrictions and limited social contact. The pandemic has not only altered the volume of crime, but crime patterns too. Recorded crime figures vary by crime type, with some crime types experiencing a reduction and others an increase during 2020/21.
9.	In 2020/21, Southampton had an overall crime rate of 112 crimes per 1k population, which is significantly higher than the national average and the highest amongst comparator Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs). Southampton accounted for 20.1% of total recorded crime across Hampshire Constabulary in 2020/21 and has the 11th highest total recorded crime rate among all English CSPs.
10.	There were 28,239 police recorded crimes in Southampton during 2020/21, which is a decline of -11.4% compared to 2019/20. This decline is in line with local and national trends, with England experiencing a -14.4% decline and Hampshire Constabulary a -12.9% decline during the same period.
	The change in total recorded crime over the last year likely reflects a genuine decline, with this decline attributed to the coronavirus pandemic and government instructions to limit social contact. However, it is important to highlight that changes in the volume of crimes vary across different crime groups, with domestic related crimes increasing over the last year, both locally and nationally. Additionally, police recorded crime only includes those crimes that have been reported to and recorded by the police, with 'hidden' crimes such as domestic abuse far more likely to be underreported than other offences such as theft.
11.	It is important that we not only consider the volume of crime in Southampton, but also the harm it causes to the victim and society. For example, high volume but low harm offences may be less of a priority to the Partnership than lower volume, but high harm offences. A crime severity score estimates the harm caused by crime. The score gives more severe offence categories a higher weight than less severe ones using crime sentencing weights calculated by ONS using data from the Ministry of Justice.
	Rape, violence with injury and residential burglary are the crime groups that caused the most harm in Southampton during 2020/21, with these groups causing the most harm for the last three years.
	Southampton experienced a -10.1% decline in the overall crime severity score of all crimes between 2019/20 and 2020/21, with Hampshire Constabulary (-9.5%) and England (-13.8%) also experiencing a decline.
	Despite the decline in the volume and severity of total recorded crime over the last year, Southampton is highest among statistical comparators and higher than the national average when considering the volume (rate) and severity of total recorded crime.

	There have been notable dealines in:
12.	There have been notable declines in:
	 violent crime (-5.1%),
	 sexual offences (-13.5%)
	 including rape (-12.9%),
	 residential burglary (-15.6%),
	• crimes involving a bladed implement (-8.0%),
	 alcohol affected crime (-13.3%)
	 and anti-social behaviour (-10.7%).
	There have also been declines in 'Most Serious Violence' (-5.4%) and cruelty
	to children offences, (-8.4%); however, the numbers for these offences are
	relatively small and percentage changes should therefore be interpreted with
	some caution.
	Delige report that the offect of leakdown and the impact of stay at home orders
13.	Police report that the effect of lockdown and the impact of stay at home orders has led to an increase in neighbour reported concerns, increased
	consumption of alcohol and drugs at home, as well as an increase in
	malicious communications via social media. However, the Police were able to
	be more pro-active in their response to these calls due to a reduction in calls
	for other street level matters, such as those relating to the night-time
	economy.
	Notable increases include:
	 domestic flagged crime (2.6%),
	 domestic violent crime (3.3%),
	 *stalking and harassment (22.3%) (including malicious
	communications),
	 drug offences (33.0%) drug offences (47.0%)
	 drug affected crime (17.0%) hate crime (19.4%).
	• nate chine (19.476).
	* Change in counting rules for stalking and harassment offences in 2018 are having an impact
	on the number of offences.
	Modern slavery (47.1%) and firearms offences (32.7%) also experienced an
	increase over the last year, but numbers for these offences are relatively
	small. Nonetheless, the increases in reporting of modern slavery appear to
	reflect a positive trend that the public and professionals are increasingly aware
	of these issues and are more likely to report, which is a positive indicator of
	confidence in the system.
14.	At the same time as there has been a decline in reported anti-social behaviour
	(ASB), there has been an increase in stalking and harassment offences.
	There is local evidence to support that this change, in part, may be due to
	changes in the way crimes are being classified based on victim perception.
15.	Similar to previous years, the 2020/21 Strategic Assessment included a crime
10.	prioritisation scoring exercise to help inform the Partnership's priority setting
	for crime types in Southampton. A simple score was calculated to inform crime
	priority setting based on ranks of:

	Crime frequency
	Crime severity score
	Proportion of crimes with formal action taken
	Year on year percentage increase in crime
	Relative position of Southampton among its comparator group of
	Community Safety Partnerships
	Based on this, the top four priorities identified were:
	Violent crime (all forms)
	Domestic crimes including domestic violent crime
	Sexual offences, particularly rape
	Residential burglary
	Violent crime, domestic crimes and sexual offences have consistently featured among the top priority areas for the last three years. This highlights that despite the decline in the volume of some of these offences and changing patterns over the last year, these three areas remain a priority.
	However, it should be noted that some crime types are more likely to be underreported than others. The most recent community safety survey highlighted that over half of crimes witnessed or experienced by respondents were not being reported. This is concerning, but especially for high harm and priority offence groups such as domestic abuse, sexual offences, serious violent crime and Violence Against Women and Girls.
16.	Overall crime decreased in 11 of the16 wards in Southampton. The largest
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	Domestic flagged crime increased in 9 wards, with increases also seen in Bassett, illustrating that domestic abuse is a city-wide issue, despite being more prevalent in the most deprived neighbourhoods in the city.
17.	There were 14,757 unique victims (excluding business and the state) who were involved in 74% of crimes in the city. Victims experiencing multiple offences (22.5%) account for 45.2% of crimes where there was a known victim. This highlights that repeat victimisation remains an issue in Southampton.
	Overall, males made up a higher proportion of victims than females (52.7% to 47.3%). However, similar to previous years, females continue to be more likely to be repeat victims across all crime types, accounting for 65.5% of victims experiencing 5 or more crimes in the year.
	Victim age profiling of overall crime follows a similar pattern to previous years. The most common age groups for victims in 2020/21 continues to be those aged 35-49 (27.4%), followed by the 25-34 (24.8%), 18-24 (15.5%) and 50-64 (15.5%) age groups.
18.	Around 8,017 individual suspects or offenders were identified from police systems for offences that occurred in Southampton during 2020/21. The majority (63.6%) of known offenders committed just one offence during the year. Despite most offenders committing just one crime in the year, individuals committing just one offence account for just 32.5% of crimes with a known suspect or offender. Therefore, those who commit multiple offences are responsible for most of the crime in the city; 7.1% of offenders committed 5 or more offences in 2020/21 yet were responsible for 30.2% of the crimes where there was a known suspect or offender. If crime levels are to reduce in the city, then the high reoffending rate needs to be addressed.
	The majority (70.6%) of offenders identified in 2020/21 were male, which is similar to the previous year (71.2% in 2019/20). The age profile for offenders identified in 2020/21 is similar to previous years, with those aged 25-34 years making up the largest group of offenders (28.6%), followed by the 35-49 (28.2%) and 18-24 (18.5%) age groups.
	Based on confirmed data from the Ministry of Justice, 29.7% of Adult offenders in Southampton reoffended (2018/19 cohort), which is higher (but not significantly) than the England and Wales average (27.4%) and the fourth highest amongst comparators. Southampton adult reoffenders will on average commit 4.5 reoffences, which is higher than the England and Wales average of 4 reoffences.
19.	Changes in data source and methodology will mean that it is not yet possible to examine long-term trends, but recent trends are comparable with previous years. Southampton experienced an overall increase in the adult reoffending rate between 2016/17 and 2017/18. However, the reoffending rate experienced a -3.0% percentage point decline between 2017/18 and 2018/19. This trend should be closely monitored by the partnership to see if decline over the last year is sustained once data is available and can be analysed.

Siani	ficant Community Safety Issues - Violent Crime
20.	Southampton is ranked 21st among English CSPs for the rate of violent crime, which is an improvement compared to the previous year (rank 15 in 2019/20). However, despite this improvement Southampton remains among the worse 10% of CSPs nationally.
	Southampton experienced a -5.1% decrease in the number of violent crimes between 2019/20 and 2020/21 and is now ranked 21st among English CSPs for the rate of violent crime, which is an improvement compared to the previous year (rank 15 in 2019/20). However, despite this welcome improvement Southampton remains highest for violent crime among comparator Community Safety Partnerships (CSP's) among the worse 10% nationally.
	Two of the three main violent crime subgroups also experienced a decline in Southampton over the last year:
	 Violence with injury declined by19.9%, Violence without injury experienced a 6.5% decline.
21.	A decline in violent crime is also observed nationally and across Hampshire Constabulary, with this decline attributed to a reduction in stranger violence and violence taking place in public spaces. This is evidenced locally, with a decline in victim/offender relationships being recorded as a 'stranger' between 2019/20 and 2020/21. Additionally, the number of violent crimes with a public place flag in Southampton declined by -25.3% over the last year. This decline illustrates the impact of lockdown and suppression of the night-time economy on the incidence of violent crime over the last year.
22.	35.5% of violent crime in Southampton during 2020/21 was flagged as domestic, which highlights how domestic violence continues to be a driver of violent crime in the city.
	Whilst it is positive to see the reductions in violent crime, there is unfortunately and expectation that violent crime will return to pre-pandemic levels in the city and across many parts of England and Wales, particularly as the night-time economy has reopened and there are more face-to-face interactions between people. As part of the work of the Partnership going forward our ambition has to be to try to stem the tide of violent crime in the City, recognising that many factors contribute to the challenges in the City.
Signi crime	ficant Community Safety Issues - Crimes Involving a Weapon, Violent
23.	There were 594 recorded crimes involving use of a bladed implement in 2020/21, a -8.0% decline compared to the previous year. Southampton accounted for 25% of knife enabled crime across Hampshire Constabulary in 2020/21. Despite the decline over the last year, Southampton continues to have the highest rate of crimes involving a bladed implement across Hampshire districts; significantly higher than all, but Portsmouth.

24.	Reducing violent crime in the city and making it safer remains the primary policing priority for the city. Victims and perpetrators of knife enabled crime continue to be skewed towards younger age groups, highlighting the importance of early intervention and the ongoing work of the Violence Reduction Unit. There were 73 firearms offences in Southampton during 2020/21, an increase of 18 crimes (32.7%) compared to the previous year. Despite the number of firearms offences being relatively small in Southampton, firearms can cause
	significant harm, particularly as firearms offences are often linked to organised crime.
25.	In 2010/21, there were 7,330 unique victims of violent crimes, with 24.2% of these individuals experiencing more than one violent crime in the year; suggesting repeat victimisation remains an issue for this crime type.
	Females (51.3%) accounted for a significantly higher proportion of violent crime victims than males (48.7%); this is different to previous assessments where males accounted for a greater proportion of violent crime victims. This change could be linked to the impact of coronavirus and lockdowns on changing patterns of violent crime over the last year. Notably there has been a reduction in stranger violence and violence occurring in public places, with victims and offenders of this type of violence skewed towards males.
	Similar to previous years, those aged under 25 continue to be most at risk of being a victim of violence, with over a third of violent crime victims aged under 25 in 2020/21; 17% of violent crime victims were aged under 18 and 17.1% aged 18-24 years.
	Findings from the 2021 community safety survey show that over half of respondents who witnessed or were a victim of serious violent crime did not report the incident. Common reasons for not reporting serious violent crime include reporting makes no difference and fear of negative consequences.
	There were 5,290 suspects and offenders of violent crime in 2020/21. Repeat offending remains an issue for violent crime offenders, with a third (33.1%) of offenders committing more than one violent crime in the year: accounting for 59.5% of violent crimes in the year.
	Males continue to make up the majority of violent crime offenders (67% in 2020/21). Age profiling of violent crime offenders is similar to previous years and to victims, with under 25s accounting for over a quarter of violent offenders.
26.	The Violence Reduction Unit is an initiative to prevent and reduce serious violence, particularly involving under 25s use of knives. Funded by the Home Office and coordinated through the OPCC, funding is currently agreed until March 2022 and is anticipated to continue for another full year although not yet confirmed. It commissions an annual serious violence problem profile and develops a response strategy based on the findings to tackle violence as part of a public health approach, driving forward plans around education, diversion, and intervention to prevent the escalation of risky behaviours. The service will

	be integral to Southampton City Council fulfilling its duties under a new Serious Violence Duty that is expected to be implemented in 2022/23.
27.	The Violence Reduction Unit was remodelled as part of a Stronger Communities service redesign in 2020/21, and now forms part of the Community Cohesion Team which incorporates aligned priorities around Prevent, Hate Crime, Modern Slavery and also providing support to local stakeholders when tackling issues and providing support for problem-solving approaches to area-based incidents of youth violence or anti-social behaviour. A new Community Tasking and Coordination Officer has joined the team to support local tactical planning, location mapping and analysis of crime trends and local hotpot areas, to better support the deployment of resources, including VRU grant funded programmes such as detached youth work.
28.	The VRU has funded a number of schemes across the city, including Youth Workers based in Accident and Emergency departments; working with 18 to 24-year-olds supported by Probation (through the Hampton Trust) for violence related offending, and arts-based diversion schemes for young people. The VRU also works across a network of partners to drive violence reduction initiatives, including the Weapons Action Group, where police, schools, young people and charities are all represented. The VRU has coordinated funding bids and is sharing funds from partners to improve joint working. Proposals to expand the remit of the VRU to support improved tactical coordination, promote community cohesion and improve the city's response to contextual safeguarding will be developed in the Spring.
29.	The VRU has been successful in drawing down funding for the city from the Home Office, in partnership with the OPCC totalling £590,000, through programmes such as Safer Streets Fund 3 and the Safety of Women at Night Fund for activities and programmes to prevent and reduce Violence Against Women and Girls. This includes the development of respect for gender programmes for secondary schools and yr6 cohorts, improved lighting and CCTV for risk areas, as well as increased security and policing presence in the Night Time Economy through partnership working. The funding is for 21/22 only, but legacies will be created by the activities for future use.
Signif	ficant Community Safety Issues - Stalking and Harassment
30.	Southampton is now the 3rd highest among comparators and although below the national average for the rate of stalking and harassment offences, there has still been a 22.3% increase in the number of stalking and harassment offences in Southampton between 2019/20 and 2020/21. Similarly, there has been an 18.8% increase across Hampshire Constabulary and 25.5% increase across England.
31.	There are several reasons why Southampton is still seeing increases in stalking and harassment offences.
	 Changes in counting rules for stalking and harassment offences in 2018 are likely still having an impact on the number of offences.

	 Home Office counting rules lend themselves to recording offences unless there is clear evidence to the contrary which has seen the number of offences increase as a result. There has been training on stalking and harassment for officers across the force area. Therefore, more offences could be being picked up as a result of improved awareness and recognition. Local evidence suggests that some crimes are being classified based on victim perception, with some crimes that may have previously been coded as anti-social behaviour now coded as stalking and harassment.
32.	It will be important for the SCP to monitor increases in stalking and harassment offences, as these offences can be a precursor for more serious offending in the future. Of particular concern is that 40% of stalking and harassment offences in 2020/21 were flagged as domestic; an increase (non- significant) on the 37.8% in 2019/20.
-	ficant Community Safety Issues - Domestic Abuse (Violence Against en and Girls)
33.	There were 4,804 domestic flagged crimes in Southampton during 2020/21, a 2.6% increase compared to the previous year. Increases were also experienced nationally, with police recorded domestic flagged crime increasing by 6% across England and Wales over the last year. However, differences between local and national increases should be interpreted with caution as police recorded domestic abuse-related crimes do not provide the most reliable measure of domestic abuse-related crime, as it often remains hidden and underreported. The majority (82.3%) of domestic flagged crimes in Southampton during 2020/21 were violent crimes. Domestic rape continues to cause significant harm in the city, with rape accounting for 45.3% of the harm (severity) caused by domestic flagged offences in 2020/21. Domestic flagged crime accounted for
	17% of all recorded crime in Southampton during 2020/21, a significantly higher proportion compared to 2019/20 (14.5%).
34.	Domestic violent crimes increased by 3.3% over the last year. Domestic abuse accounts for an increasing proportion of violent offences over time; almost a third (35.5%) of violent offences in 2020/21. The number of domestic violent crimes has increased for an eighth consecutive year.
	Domestic abuse not only has an impact on victims, but also close family and children in the household. Children experiencing or witnessing domestic abuse is a key Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE), with children experiencing ACEs more likely to have poorer outcomes, particularly those relating to health, education and crime. The impact on children is illustrated by the fact that over half (54.3%) of Southampton High Risk Domestic Abuse Referrals (HRDA) in Southampton have children or young people in the household (April 2019 – March 2021). Additionally, 55% of s.17/s.47 social care assessments of children undertaken in 2019/20 had domestic violence recorded as an assessment factor.

35.	Domestic abuse is a citywide issue. However, rates of domestic flagged crime are highest in Bitterne (includes Thornhill), Redbridge and Woolston, with notable hotspots in these wards. These wards are also where some of the most deprived neighbourhoods in the city are located. Domestic flagged crime continues to have strong links to deprivation, with rates approximately 4.9 times higher in the most deprived neighbourhoods compared to the least deprived.
36.	There were 3,156 victims of domestic flagged crime identified in 2020/21. 27.4% of domestic crime victims experienced more than one crime in the year, with repeat victims accounting for 50.7% of domestic crimes. This highlights that repeat victimisation remains an issue for domestic flagged crime.
	Females (68.2%) continue to account for a significantly higher proportion of victims than males (31.8%). The most common age group for domestic crime victims in 2020/21 continues to be those aged 25-34 years (31.1%), followed by the 35-49 (29.7%) and 18-24 (18.6%) age groups. Approximately, 6% of victims were aged under 18.
	Findings from the most recent community safety survey showed that over half of respondents that witnessed or were a victim of domestic abuse did not report the incident. The most common reasons for not reporting domestic abuse include:
	 Reporting makes no difference (28%), Fear of negative consequences (23%) Unsure how to report it (20%)
37.	There were 2,853 domestic flagged crime offenders identified in 2020/21, with 31.4% of offenders committing more than one domestic crime in the year – accounting for 55.6% of domestic crimes. It should be noted that reported incidents of domestic abuse usually follow many repeat and unreported incidents. This highlights the importance of tackling repeat offenders if we are to reduce rates of domestic related crime in the city.
	32% of domestic crime offenders also committed other offences in the year. Offenders committing multiple domestic crimes are more likely to commit other offences.
	Sex and age profiling of domestic crime offenders for 2020/21 is in line with previous years, with males (71.1%) continuing to account for a significantly higher proportion of offenders than females (28.9%). The most common age group for domestic crime offenders are still those aged 25-34 (33.9%), followed by 35-49 (32%) and 18-24 (17.5%) age groups.
Signif	icant Community Safety Issues - Sexual Offences
38.	Southampton has the 3rd highest rate of sexual offences among comparator CSPs and is the 13th highest in England. However, there has been a -13.5% decline in the number of recorded sexual offences in Southampton over the last year. This is likely to be in part due to closures of the night-time economy and students living in the city returning home.

	There has similarly been a 12.9% decline in rapes and a decline of 13.9% in other sexual offences. Prior to the decline seen over the latest year, the number of sexual offences, particularly rape had increased in Southampton. It is thought that increases between 2018/19 and 2019/20 could have reflected a genuine increase. The pandemic, as indicated above, removed some of the opportunity for offending in public places, which may support a true reduction in this year, but there are also factors such as low confidence in reporting (as highlighted in feedback to the annual Community Safety Survey) to consider when evaluating changes in levels of sexual crime. There is growing evidence that the impact of the 'Me Too' movements and an increased awareness of Violence Against Women and Girls is impacting on an increase in reported offences of rape and sexual offences heading out of 20/21 into 21/22. (See above on funding secured to tackle these issues)
39.	There has also been a notable change in patterns of sexual offences over the last year across the force area, particularly rape, specifically an increase in domestic rapes*. There has been a decline in stranger and acquaintance rapes** These changes are also evidenced in Southampton where there has been:
	 A 4.1% increase in the number of domestic rapes over the last year, Domestic rape accounted for 38.2% of rape offences in 2020/21 compared with 32.7% in 2019/20, Southampton has seen a decline in the number of stranger (-31.8%, -14 offences) and acquaintance (-22.4%, -28 offences) rapes in the last year.
	*Domestic rape describes rape offences that are flagged as domestic **Stranger and acquaintance rape based on the victim and offender relationship recorded
40.	Sub city patterns of sexual offences in Southampton also differ to previous years. In 2018/19 and 2019/20, Bargate ward had the highest rate of sexual offences; however, Bargate was 3rd highest in 2020/21. Bargate also experienced the 3rd largest decline in sexual offences (-27.3%) across Southampton wards over the last year. High rates of sexual offences in Bargate ward have previously been linked to the night-time economy and this is likely to remain the case.
	Changes in the volume and patterns of sexual offences in Southampton over the last year are likely driven by lockdown restrictions and suppression of the night-time economy, with these changes also experienced across the force area. Volumes and patterns of sexual offences are expected to return to the pre-pandemic baseline, especially with the night-time economy currently reopen. There may also be an increase in police recorded sexual offences through belated reports and rising focus on Violence Against Women and Girls, encouraging more women and girls to come forward and report these crimes when experienced. Therefore, post-pandemic trends will continue to be monitored closely.
41.	767 victims of sexual offences were identified:

	 10.6% of sexual offence victims experienced more than one offence within the year 				
	 38.7% of sexual offence victims experienced other offences in the year. 				
	Suggesting victims are often vulnerable individuals				
	A majority of sexual offence victims in 2020/21 were female (86%)				
	• Age profiles for victims identified in 2020/21 line with previous years,				
	 Most common age groups for rape victims were still those aged 25- 34 (28.1%), under 18 (26.7%) and 18-24 (25.5%), 				
	 56.2% of other sexual offence victims were aged under 18, significantly higher than all other age groups, likely attributable to increased awareness of the issue in schools. 				
	Victim profiling continues to highlight that females aged under 25 are most at				
	of being a victim of sexual offences, with those aged under 25 accounting for over half of rape victims and under 18's accounting for over half of other sexual offence victims in 2020/21.				
	sexual offence vicums in 2020/21.				
	Findings from the 2021 community safety survey show that over half of respondents who witnessed or were a victim of sexual assaults or Violence Against Women and Girls did not report the incident.				
	Top reasons for not victims reporting violence against women and girls include:				
	 Reporting makes no difference (40%) 				
	 Reporting makes no difference (40%) Fear of negative consequences (17%). 				
	The reasons commonly given for not reporting sexual assaults were:				
	Reporting makes no difference (42%),				
	 A disappointing previous experience of reporting (21%), 				
	 It happens too often (21%), 				
	Too much hassle/too difficult to do (21%)				
	 Fear of negative consequences (19%) 				
42.	There were 524 sexual offence offenders identified of whom 7.8% committed				
72.	more than 1 crime in the year.				
	40.70/ of a survey offension offension also a survey it and other offension to the				
	42.7% of sexual offence offenders also committed other offence types in the				
	year, with the most common being violence without injury, violence with injury and public order offences. Ages 35-49 is the most common age group for				
	sexual offence offenders (25.8%), followed by 25-34 (25.6%) and those aged				
	18-24 (21%). 92.9% of sexual offence offenders were male.				
Significant Community Safety Issues - Drugs Alashal and Tabaasa					
Signi	ficant Community Safety Issues - Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco				
43.	A new Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco strategy is under development under the				
	auspices of the Health and Wellbeing Board. This new strategy will be				
	implemented in 2022 and aims to unify work to tackle addiction risks by				
	applying a public health approach to the problem and will align to the Governments new ten-year drugs strategy.				
1					

44.	Southampton is ranked 5th highest among comparator CSPs and is significantly higher than the England average for the rate of drug offences with 4.9 drug offences per 1K of population, compared to an England average of 3.3 offences per 1K population. A total of 1,242 drug offences were recorded in 2020/21 (includes possession and trafficking offences), a 33% increase (308 crimes) compared to the previous year; this compares with a 34% increase across Hampshire Constabulary and 11.1% increase across England. The number of drug-affected crimes (where drugs are flagged as a factor) also increased by 17% in Southampton over the last year.
	The number of drug offences recorded by the police is heavily dependent on police activities and priorities. Over the last two years, drug crime has had an operational focus in Southampton through Operation Fortress and coordinated interventions delivered by a High Harm Team. The coronavirus pandemic and serial lockdowns has also contributed to the increase in police recorded drug offences experienced over the last year as drug related crimes became more visible on the streets due to other people staying at home. The police's ability to be more proactive in their on-street activity was also a factor; their use of COVID powers to stop individuals who were potentially in breach of lockdown, also resulted in higher numbers of drug related offences being detected.
	There remains a strong link between drug offences and deprivation, with the offence rate 4.2 times higher in the most deprived neighbourhoods compared to the least deprived. Drug affected crime (where drugs are flagged as a factor) experienced a 17% increase from 849 crimes in 2019/20 to 993 crimes in 2020/21.
45.	There were 2,268 alcohol affected crimes in 2020/21, which is a -13.3% decline (347 crimes) compared to the previous year. This decline is largely is driven by the suppression of the night-time economy.
	The majority of alcohol affected crimes in 2020/21 were violent crimes (71.1%).
	Despite a decline in the volume of offences over the last year, Bevois and Bargate wards continue to have the highest rate of alcohol affected crime, with rates in these wards significantly higher than the city average. Peak times for alcohol affected crimes continue to be late at night or during the early hours on weekends. It is expected that volumes of alcohol affected crime will return to pre-pandemic levels, particularly if the night-time economy remains unrestricted.
-	ficant Community Safety Issues - Crime involving children (as victims or etrator)
46.	Responsibility for tackling youth crime is the responsibility of Youth Justice Services, overseen by a Youth Justice Management Board (YJMB). A new Youth Justice Strategy for 2022 to 2027 will be published in 2022 that is supported by an overarching Children and Young People Strategy for 2022 to 2027, also due for publication in 2022.
47.	In 2020, Southampton had a juvenile First Time Entrant (FTE) rate of 32.7 per 10k children aged 10-17. The city is highest among comparators and

	significantly higher than the national average (16.5 per 10k children). The Southampton FTE rate has remained significantly higher than the national average for the last 4 years. Although similar, to the national trend, the FTE rate in Southampton has experienced a sustained decline since 2012. Southampton's trend has remained relatively stable in recent years. There is recognition within the Youth Justice Management Board, as well as Hampshire Constabulary, which is adopting a child centred approach to policing, that more can be done to tackle this issue. Key areas of focus being on the development of prevention and diversion models of work that will reduce the number of young people who enter into the Criminal Justice System, supported by changes to how Hampshire Constabulary record diversionary actions.	
48.	The percentage of youth offenders who reoffend in Southampton is 50.3% (2018/19 cohort), which is significantly higher than the England and Wales average (37.8%). Southampton has a lower-than-average number of reoffences per youth reoffender at 3.6 reoffences (compared to 3.9 for England and Wales). Like adult reoffending statistics, method and data changes mean analysis of long-term trends is not possible. There was a decline in the youth reoffending rate between 2016/17 and 2017/18, but over the last year there has been a 11.9% percentage point increase in the youth offending rate from 38.4% in 2017/18 to 50.3% in 2018/19. However, it is important to note that this increase is not statistically significant due to the small cohort of offenders (175 offenders and 88 reoffenders in 2018/19).	
49.	The Youth offending service (YOS) continues to monitor a Live Time Re- offending tracker which highlights the children whom we need to be focussing on, on a monthly basis. Discussions are held in appropriate forums when children are identified. Whilst re-offending continues to be a concern, the more pressing issues locally continue to be the increased complexity with which children who offend present with, as well as the associated risks from exploitation and/or serious youth violence, compounded by a prolonged period of the pandemic that has impacted children and young people adversely. The YOS is aligned to the objectives of the Violence Reduction Unit, and activity to develop a new Young Person's Service has begun as part of Children's Services Destination 22 programme, aligning the YOS, Missing Exploited and Trafficked Team (MET) and the Behavioural Resource Service.	
50.	The YOS retains a duty to support all victims of youth crime. This is delivered through a range of restorative interventions to those victims who consent to support, who are also able to indicate remedies that should be undertaken by the young person to repair the harm caused by their offending.	
Significant Community Safety Issues - Cruelty to Children		
51.	Southampton is ranked second highest among comparators for the rate of cruelty to children, offences. There were 197 cruelty to children offences	

	recorded in 2020/21, a -8.4% (-18 crimes) decline compared to the previous year, with Hampshire experiencing a -2.6% decline during the same period.
	It is difficult to assess whether the decline experienced across Southampton and Hampshire Constabulary over the last year reflects a genuine decline due to repeated periods of lockdown and children spending more time at home, which will have made it more difficult for abuse to be identified. It is thought that volumes will return to pre-pandemic levels and potentially higher through belated reports, as children regain access to their trusted adults through school and other support systems.
Signi	ficant Community Safety Issues - Residential burglary
52.	There has been a -15.6% reduction in residential burglary offences in 2020/21. There have been similar declines across Hampshire Constabulary (-24%) and England (-28.7%) during the same period.
	The decline over the last year is likely to reflect a genuine decline in residential burglaries, as residential burglary alongside other theft offences are less likely to be impacted by recording improvements, as they are relatively well reported to and recorded by the police.
	Declines in residential burglary and other theft offences over the last year have largely been attributed to the coronavirus pandemic, as more people stayed at home and limited their social contact. As a result, this has limited the opportunity for acquisitive crimes.
53.	However, despite the decline, Southampton has the highest rate for residential burglary among comparator CSPs and has significantly higher rates than all other HIOW LA's.
	There is some suggestion that residential burglary may not return to pre- pandemic volumes or patterns for some time or at all due to long-term shifts towards home working. Long-term changes in the volume and patterns of residential burglary could lead to crime displacement, particularly as residential burglary offenders are known to commit a wide range of crimes. Of all offences committed by known residential burglary offenders in 2020/21 less than a quarter (23.6%) were residential burglary offences.
Comr	nunity Cohesion, Modern Slavery, Prevent and Hate Crime
54.	The Stronger Communities team has been coordinating improvements to our local response to ensure that matters relating to hate crime, modern day slavery and Prevent (radicalisation) are strengthened, better communicated and benefit from strategic oversight. This has included the reset of the Prevent Board, during 2020, which in 2019 only met as a working group, with community partners once again invited to join the board to ensure that vulnerable communities voices are represented.
55.	A new Modern-Day Slavery Working-Group has been implemented to ensure that local partners have an awareness of this complex issue. The working group reports locally into the Southampton Safeguarding Adults Board and to

	the Hampshire Modern Slavery Partnership. A new online training module has been developed by the OPCC and work is underway to support this being cascaded to all staff in frontline professional roles.
56.	Race continues to be the largest motivating factor of hate crime, followed by sexual orientation and disability in Southampton during 2020/21. There was an 19.4% increase (+155) in hate crimes in Southampton during 2020/21, higher than the 9% increase across England and Wales, in part attributable to the positive impact of the city's Third-Party Reporting Centres and ease of use of a Hate Crime Reporting App, both facilitated by Spectrum: The Centre for Independent living, working together cross sectors with the Hate Crime Network. The service has been funded by Southampton City Council for the period 2020 to 2022 and will be tendered for contract for a start in April 2022. Increases in police recorded hate crime in recent years have been driven by improvements in crime recording, better identification of what constitutes a hate crime and an increase in victims reporting crimes.
57.	A new Community Cohesion Forum has met five times in 2021 and has been an opportunity for community leaders, council officers and other agencies to come together to discuss and respond to issues of concern experienced by more diverse or marginalised communities. A new Community Cohesion and Diversity Officer, located within the Stronger Communities team is now able to provide additional capacity to nurture and support these networks, gain insight and broaden agencies awareness of community level issues.
58.	A revised Prevent Action Plan has been developed that includes a refresh of the Counter Terrorism Police Local Plan which sets out the situational risks for the city, which continue to be low. An increase in reported right wing extremism matches a national trend. This coincides with a renewed referral pathway introduced in January 2021 and the introduction of Police Led Panels to case manage and risk assess individuals suspected of radicalism who do not consent to engage with the Prevent Channel process. The new 'Contain' duty will confer a duty on to public agencies to manage buildings safely in light of the Manchester Arena bombings. This duty will likely be managed through Emergency Planning processes in liaison with the Board. A new, Hampshire wide training plan has been developed to support professional learning and promote awareness of Prevent across public services. Prevent awareness training has also been scheduled for all Members.
59.	To give victims of hate crime the confidence to report incidents, and ensure this crime data is monitored, the Police employ a cohesion officer who engages with communities who are most likely to endure hate crime, especially around race and religion and they feed into the daily management meeting.
Resid	lents Views – The Annual Southampton Community Safety Survey
60.	Regulations state that strategic assessments must take into account views of people living and working in the city. The annual Southampton Community Safety Survey ran from 27 August 2021 to 27 September 2021. The total number of valid responses for the survey was 2,551 which was the highest number ever. The survey was promoted through the Stronger Communities

	team and the Southampton People's Panel. The survey was predominately online, but face to face surveys were also conducted. Due to the self-selecting nature of an online survey, participants may have more interest in community safety issues than the general population, and possibly different views. The results presented are based on unweighted data to enable comparisons with previous years. Due to methodological differences between surveys, any differences should be interpreted with some caution. It should also be emphasised that this survey was conducted between August and September 2021 and published police recorded crime data covers the period of April 2020 to March 2021. It is therefore important to highlight the 2021 survey took place several months after covid restrictions had been eased across the UK and it is likely that the recent changes to people's lives, may have affected people's views on community safety especially in the wake of serial lockdowns during 2020 and 2021.			
61.	 In the most recent survey (2021), 1 in 4 (26%) respondents agreed that the police and other local public services are successfully dealing with crime and anti-social behaviour. It is important to note that public perception towards how police and other public services are dealing with crime and ASB can be influenced by: High profile national events, particularly those recently around Violence Against Women and Girls, COVID pandemic and serial lockdowns making certain crime types more visible, Social media – particularly the digital presence of police, council and 			
	other public services Detailed demographic and geographic breakdowns also highlighted the following:			
	 Respondents from Black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds were significantly more likely to agree that police and other public services are successfully dealing with crime and ASB, than those from a white ethnic background, Under 16's agreed to the greatest extent (52%), which is significantly higher than all other age groups, Respondents who are resident in Millbrook disagreed to the greatest extent (69%), followed by Redbridge (61%), Bargate and Freemantle (58%). 			
62.	In the most recent survey (2021), 48% of respondents felt crime levels in their local area had increased in the last 12 months, whilst 44% felt crime levels had stayed the same. The proportion of respondents feeling that crime had increased in the most recent survey (48%) is similar to the 2020 survey (47%). However, this remains lower than the 55% in the 2019 survey but should be understood in the context of serial lockdowns during 2020 and 2021.			
	A significantly higher proportion of females (50%) felt crime had increased compared to males (43%). Those from white ethnic backgrounds were significantly more likely to feel that crime had increased compared to			

	respondents from Black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds. Those aged under 16 (28%) felt crime had increased to a lesser extent compared to all other age groups. Respondents who live in Millbrook felt crime had increased the most (73%), compared to Bitterne Park, where only 34% felt crime had increased.			
63.	Most respondents felt safe during the day, both in their local area (84%) and i the city centre (77%). Feelings of safety after dark continue to be lower, both in local areas (41%) and the city centre (27%). Feelings of safety in the 2021 survey are lower in all settings compared to the 2020 survey, although they are similar to the 2019 survey. Increased feelings of safety in the 2020 survey may have been influenced by the pandemic, with a more visible police presence and less people on the streets. Therefore, we may be seeing a return to pre-pandemic feelings of safety (2019 survey).			
	Females feel significantly more unsafe than males after dark, in both local areas and the city centre. Younger working age adults (16-29 and 30-39) also feel less safe after dark compared to the survey average.			
64.	Of the 1,739 responses to the question on 'what would make respondents feel safer in Southampton', the largest response is around a greater police presence, with over half (52%, 903 respondents) stating that this would make them feel safer. Other common responses included:			
	 Deal and respond effectively to reports / more consequences, Better lighting across the city, CCTV / security cameras. 			
65.	The biggest Community Safety issues identified by the public in the 2021 survey were:			
	 People using or dealing drugs, burglary/robbery/theft, vandalism/graffiti and anti-social behaviour, 			
	It should be noted that respondent's perception of issues is likely influenced by the visibility of crime e.g. vandalism/graffiti, the media and their own personal experiences.			
	Perceptions around domestic abuse, serious violent crime and hate crime have seen percentage point increases in respondents reporting these categories to be an issue between the 2020 and 2021 surveys. This may indicate a rising awareness and a growing understanding of these issues in the city, which may chime with the public debate on these issues.			
66.	The majority (71%) of respondents in the 2021 survey had not been a victim of crime or ASB in the last 12 months. The proportion of respondents reporting being a victim of crime or ASB in the most recent survey (29% in 2021) is slightly higher than the 26% in the 2020 survey but remains below the 35% reported being a victim in the 2019 survey. Respondents aged under 16 were the least likely to be a victim of crime or ASB, with only 13% reporting being a victim.			

67.	The survey indicated that of those who responded, residents in Millbrook (51%) and Bargate (49%) wards were most likely to be a victim of crime or ASB; compared with Harefield (11%), Bitterne Park (18%) and Sholing (20%) where respondents were least likely to be a victim.				
68.	Begging in the streets, ASB, vandalism/graffiti and people using or dealing drugs were the most common crime types witnessed or experienced by respondents. This is in line with police recorded crime, with higher volume bu lower harm offences most common (e.g., vandalism/graffiti and ASB). These offences are some of the most visible.				
	Low volume but high harm offences were less commonly witnessed or experienced by respondents (sexual assault and serious violent crime). It is important to note that the survey is self-selecting, and certain offence types are more 'hidden' than others e.g., domestic abuse compared with vandalism/graffiti.				
69.	When witnessing or being a victim of these crimes, over half of respondents in the annual Community Safety Survey told us they did not report the following offences:				
	 sexual assaults (53%), serious violent crime (53%), 				
	 domestic abuse (55%), 				
	 violence against women and girls (59%). 				
	This is an indication that under-reporting remains a challenge for the partnership regards the most serious, high harm offences.				
70.	The annual Community Safety Survey 2021 highlights the most common reasons for not reporting serious violent crime include:				
	 reporting makes no difference (42%), fear of negative consequences (20%), 				
	The most common reasons for not reporting domestic abuse were:				
	 Reporting makes no difference (28%), Fear of negative consequences (23%) Unsure how to report it (20%) 				
	The Safe City Partnership and the Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership Board recognises that any level of underreporting would lead to rates of domestic abuse experienced in the city being higher than those reported.				
	The annual Community Safety Survey also highlights that the biggest reasons for victims not reporting violence against women and girls include:				
	 Reporting makes no difference (40%) Fear of negative consequences (17%). 				
	The reasons commonly given for not reporting sexual assaults were:				

	 Reporting makes no difference (42%), A disappointing previous experience of reporting (21%), It happens too often (21%), Too much hassle/too difficult to do (21%) Fear of negative consequences (19%) This would suggest there is more to do to increase confidence in reporting to the criminal justice system in some of the areas of most significant risk.			
Wide	Determinants of Crime and summary position			
maci	Determinants of online and saminary position			
71.	Young people are also disproportionally more likely to become involved in crime, either as a victim or offender. In the coming years the make-up of the population of the city is predicted to change as follows, and therefore the current plans in place to develop a new Adolescent Service (SCC); support prevention and diversionary activity (Youth Offending Services and the Violence Reduction Unit) and strategic ambition towards Child Centred Policing (Hampshire Constabulary) and becoming a UNICEF Child Friendly City (SCC) will all support addressing these risks going forward.			
	 10–14-year-old population will increase by 6.3% 15-19 population will increase by 14.7%. 			
72.	 Children who live in poverty are at greater risk of becoming involved in crime, either as victim or perpetrator: 10,286 (22%) of children in Southampton are living in relative low-income families, 10,018 (20,4%) of Southampton pupils in state funded schools are 			
	 10,018 (30.4%) of Southampton pupils in state funded schools are known to be eligible for free school meals, significantly higher than the England average of 20.8% in 2021, The proportion of children eligible for free school meals in Southampton increased from 24.7% in 2019/20 to 30.4% in 2020/21. Analysis of the data we have of those we work with in our youth offending ser vice are that many young people have experienced Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and there is a concerted effort across the whole partnership to enable ACE training amongst professionals to increase awareness. 			
73.	Over the last 18months, coronavirus, whilst not a 'wider determinant' has significantly impacted volumes of police recorded crime, both locally and nationally. Total recorded crime declined by 11.4% in Southampton over the last year. However, despite this decline Southampton has the highest rate and severity of total recorded crime among comparator CSPs. Volumes of recorded crime for many crime types are expected to return to pre-pandemic levels. There may also be increases in some crime types through belated reporting and increased awareness e.g., violence against women and girls.			
74.	Despite changes in the volume and patterns of many crime types over the last year, the following areas remain a priority: violent crime, sexual offences, and			

	domestic crimes. Residential burglary again features as priority, after not scoring as prominently in the previous assessment, but this is likely due to changes in the volume of other crime types. Repeat offending remains an issue in Southampton, with 7.1% of offenders who committed 5 or more offences being responsible for 30.2% of the crimes where there was a known suspect or offender. Tackling repeat offending is key to reducing overall levels of crime in the city.			
75.	Respondents of the most recent community safety survey continue to feel less safe after dark in both their local area and city centre. Females were also significantly more likely to feel unsafe after dark compared to males. Younger working age adults (16-29 and 30-39) feel less safe after dark compared to the survey average. When asked what would make people feel safer, the most common responses were: greater police presence, to deal and respond effectively to reports/more consequences, better lighting, addressing drug/alcohol problems and CCTV/security cameras. It is important that the partnership examines the wider determinants of crime, as if these worsen, the city may see subsequent increases in crime across the city.			
Gove	rnance structures			
76.	Responsibility for the coordination of the Safe City Partnership (SCP) moved from the Policy Team to the new Stronger Communities Team in 2020 and continues. This includes oversight of a range of connected strategic groups, including the Southampton Prevent Strategic Partnership Board, the new Domestic Abuse Strategic Partnership Board, Modern Slavery Working Group and Violence Reduction Group. This change has enabled fresh impetus to be applied to the operational activity supported by these meetings, whilst ensuring that strategic leads have confidence that key issues and actions are being taken within a strengthened set of governance arrangements. Updated terms of reference for the SCP, including a refreshed Information Sharing Agreement, were accepted by the SCP's members in the spring of 2020 for review in 2022.			
Safe	City Partnership Strategy - Next Steps			
77.	The three-year Safe City Strategy was initially due to be reviewed by April 2020. However, in early 2020 the council and its partners had to turn focus away from reviewing the strategy and address challenges brought on by Covid-19, to ensure business continuality and efficient delivery of critical services.			
78.	A number of connected strategies are also due for renewal in this period, along with a necessity for the Safe City Partnership to assist SCC and partners apply new statutory and legislative duties arising from the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 and the forthcoming Serious Violence Duty. An extended period of review is allowing the partnership to assess the impact of COVID on local operational and strategic activity in the city, whilst enabling partners to assess and apply those new duties, accounting for the priorities that have been identified both by the Strategic Assessment and the public's feedback.			

79.	The current timeline for the approval of the Safe City Strategy is to review feedback to the consultation in the coming weeks, with approval being undertaken in February and March 2022.			
RESC	OURCE IMPLICATIONS			
<u>Capit</u>	al/Revenue			
80.	The Safe City Partnership currently has no dedicated budget of its own with all costs associated with assessment, communications and campaigns borne by SCC alone. This includes the annual production of a Strategic Assessment, Community Safety Survey and analysis of the same.			
Property/Other				
81.	None			
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS				
<u>Statu</u>	tory power to undertake proposals in the report:			
82.	The Police and Justice Act 2006 empowers overview and scrutiny committees to scrutinise Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships, and the partners who comprise it, insofar as their activities relate to the partnership, at least once a year.			
Othe	Legal Implications:			
83.	None			
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS				
84.	Risk to be reflected in the revised Safe City Strategy.			
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS				
85.	These will be defined as the work progresses.			

CISION?	No		
COMMUNITIES AF	FECTED:	All	
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION			
Appendices			
1. None			
Documents In Members' Rooms			
None			
	<u>SL</u> lices None ents In Members' R	S/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED: SUPPORTING D lices None ents In Members' Rooms	

1.	None			
Equality Impact Assessment				
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety No Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out?				
Privacy Impact Assessment				
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) to be carried out?		No		

Other Background Documents Other Background documents available for inspection at:					
Title of Background Paper(s)			Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)		
1.	Safe City Strategic Assessment:				