

<b>Report To:</b>	Corporate Improvement Scrutiny Committee
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**Date:** 04 March 2025

**Subject:** Safer Slough Partnership annual update

**Chief Officer:** Tessa Lindfield Director Public Health and Public Protection

**Contact Officer:** Lisa Spall, Community Safety Partnership Manager

**Ward(s):** All

**Exempt:** No

**Appendices:** Appendix A – Safer Slough Strategy 2025-28  
Appendix B – SSP KPI Table  
Appendix C – Funded project feedback Youth  
Appendix D – Funded project feedback Lime

**1. Summary**

- 1.1 This report provides an overview of the Safer Slough Partnership (SSP), work and achievements against key priorities from April 2024 to December 2024.
- 1.2 The SSP key priorities are set out in the SSP April 2024 Community Safety Strategy. This strategy (at Appendix A) is the Statutory requirement of the partnership and was completed in November 2024. This strategy was developed using data and community insight to build a picture of what the partnership priorities should be. They are:
  - **Domestic Abuse**
  - **Serious Violence**
  - **Anti-Social Behaviour**
  - **Substance Misuse**
- 1.3 There will be a data provided by Thames Valley Police supporting in this report to look at our partnership priorities.

**2. Recommendation**

That members of the CISC Committee;

- 2.1 Note the progress made by the Safer Slough Partnership in the past year as described in the SSP annual report.
- 2.2 Raise any questions/ comments on the progress made by the Safer Slough Partnership in delivering significant change to strengthen and build partnership work in this area.and make any recommendations they think appropriate;

- 2.3 Offer comment in respect of proposed key performance indicators for 2025/26 at Appendix B; and
- 2.4 Note the Police update, and comparison to other local police areas.

### Commissioner Review:

Improvements are being made to the functioning of the board. This is to be welcomed but the committee will wish to avoid declaring victory too early. Members may wish to explore how these improvements will feed into significant improvements in the reduction of crime and over what period of time.

### 3. Introduction

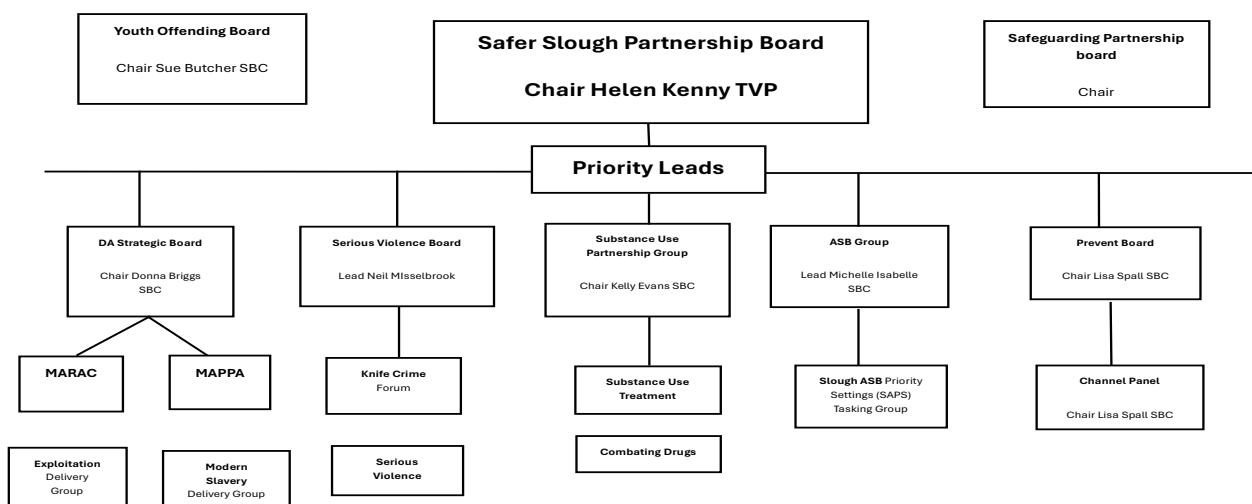
- 3.1 The SSP is the statutory Community Safety Partnership (CSP) for Slough in which the responsible authorities (local authorities, prescribed probation service providers, chief officer of police, fire and rescue authority, integrated care board) have a duty to work with other local agencies to tackle crime and disorder. It is the mechanism for responsible authorities to work together to formulate and implement strategies for reducing crime and disorder in the area. This includes anti-social behaviour and other adverse behaviour affecting the local environment and combating misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in the area.
- 3.2 The partnership serves to provide strategic, coordinated and proactive responses to **reduce crime, the fear of crime and disorder** within the borough, making Slough a place where people want to live, work, visit, and invest.
- 3.3 The SSP is a thematic group and is governed by a Board, currently chaired by the Local Policing Area Commander for Thames Valley Police, supported by representatives from the responsible authorities. These are the police, local authority, fire and rescue, the NHS and the probation service.
- 3.4 The new SSP is ambitious and strongly believes they are better when working together and can have a substantial impact on Slough in making our communities safer.
- 3.5 **SSP statutory duties** under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, mean the authorities forming a CSP have responsibilities to:
- i. form a strategic group that formulates and implements strategies to reduce crime and disorder, including anti-social and other adverse behaviour affecting the local environment, combatting misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances, reducing re-offending and preventing and reducing instances of serious violence
  - ii. seek the views of the public annually.
  - iii. publish an annual strategic assessment to inform/identify local priorities
  - iv. set out a partnership plan and monitor progress.
  - v. provide a framework for information sharing.
  - vi. reduce re-offending
  - vii. commission Domestic Violence Homicide Reviews.

#### 4. Performance management and governance.

- 4.1** The overarching objective of the SSP is to make our communities safer. Partners have a statutory duty to deliver their strategic priorities. These are performance managed to track progress with evidence-based outcomes. The new SSP constantly challenge ‘what difference are we making?’
- 4.2** The governance reporting methods are transparent and, where there are issues or barriers, these are identified and resolved together through the SSP Board. Progress reports are submitted to the Board by responsible strategic leads for each priority on a quarterly basis. The priorities ensure they support the delivery of the Council’s Corporate Plan, TV Police and Crime Commissioner Police and Crime Plan 2021-2025.
- 4.3** The priorities in item 4.6.4, were informed by a Community Safety survey, commissioned early 2024, which ran between June and August 2024.
- 4.4** The survey is conducted annually to inform the SSP about community safety concerns of those who live and work in Slough. The survey aids the SSP to deliver its key priorities. Valuing and listening to the voices of the communities underpin these priorities as follows: -

- **Domestic Abuse** - including sexual abuse, violence against women and girls
- **Serious Violence** - tackle gang and knife related crime
- **Anti-Social Behaviour** – develop a partnership place-based approach
- **Substance use** - substance misuse and mental health.

- 4.5** Priority leads ensure progress of this work is carried out by several partnership sub-groups, as illustrated in the chart below.



- 4.6** Sub-groups have multi-agency representation, including third sector organisations, schools, colleges and businesses, where relevant and appropriate. Key to their success is working in partnership and ensuring that important messages are shared with partners and communities.

4.7 Safer Slough Partnership has met on 3 occasions since April 2024.

## 5. Local crime picture for 2024 -2025

5.1 Slough is a safe place when compared to the national picture on crime. It is however located amongst Local Authorities in areas with some of the lowest crime rates in the country, so for Thames Valley Police, Slough is an area of priority.

5.2 Fear of crime is not always directly correlated with an individual’s direct experience of crime. Community Safety surveys can give us an insight into this, but we need to also develop other ways to engage locally with communities to understand what is driving fear in that local area and how it is impacting their quality of life.

5.3 The chart below, compares the crime rate in Slough to the average crime rate across similar areas over 2024/2025. It shows the total number of crimes per thousand residents, for the crime type selected. A more detailed presentation will follow this report illustrating the local crime picture for Slough.

LPA	Crimes			Positive Outcomes			Positive Outcome rates	
	Previous	Current	% Change	Previous	Current	% Change	Previous	Current
Bracknell and Wokingham	16,252	15,197	-6%	1927	2157	12%	12%	14%
Reading	18,275	17,615	-4%	2381	2647	11%	13%	15%
Slough	16,186	15,011	-7%	1728	1801	4%	11%	12%
West Berkshire	9,529	9,371	-2%	1256	1596	27%	13%	17%
Windsor and Maidenhead	9,580	9,535	-0%	1336	1590	19%	14%	17%
Buckinghamshire	32,801	32,200	-2%	4129	4287	4%	13%	13%
Milton Keynes	26,832	26,997	1%	3521	3685	5%	13%	14%
Oxfordshire	47,311	46,888	-1%	7278	8208	13%	15%	18%
LPA	Crimes			Positive Outcomes			Positive Outcome rates	
LPA	Previous	Current	% Change	Previous	Current	% Change	Previous	Current
<b>Slough</b>	<b>16,186</b>	<b>15,011</b>	<b>-7%</b>	<b>1728</b>	<b>1801</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>12%</b>
Britwell / Haymill	1,527	1,366	-11%	185	138	-25%	12%	10%
Chalvey / Upton / Town	4,652	4,478	-4%	579	623	8%	12%	14%
Cippenham	1,680	1,722	3%	162	206	27%	10%	12%
Colnbrook / Poyle / Foxborough	1,892	1,559	-18%	135	109	-19%	7%	7%
Farnham / Baylis / Stoke	2,534	2,415	-5%	254	289	14%	10%	12%
Langley / Kedermister	1,441	1,335	-7%	118	139	18%	8%	10%
Wexham Lea / Central	2,366	2,085	-12%	276	282	2%	12%	14%

5.4 It is important to know the types of crime committed in Slough and the evidence of what works to prevent crimes and criminality, to inform our partnership programme of work which aims to reduce crime and disorder and reduce the fear of crime.

5.5 What follows is a brief overview of each of the SSP Priority subgroups, a summary of their project aims objectives, their key success outcomes up until Q2 of 24/25 and some of the challenges for that work stream.

## 6. Slough Domestic Abuse Local Partnership Board – Priority Lead: SBC - Children First

### 6.1 Project Summary

6.2 To develop the strategic approach to Domestic Abuse (DA) across the SSP and ensure there is a partnership strategy and action plans to address DA and the impact on children (as victims in their own right), vulnerable adults, and families.

### 6.3 Objectives - three-year strategy 2023-2024

6.4 The DA Partnership Board was established to meet the requirements set out in the Section 4 of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, which places a statutory duty on Local Authorities to convene a Local Partnership Board

6.5 The Board, which comprises representatives from statutory, voluntary and private sectors who work together to address DA across Slough. It recognises that DA destroys the lives of victims and their families.

6.6 In Slough, the DA needs assessment 2023, evidenced that the volume of domestic incidents has remained relatively static, and DA crimes have decreased steadily as shown below

LPA	Previous	Current	% Change
⊕ Oxfordshire	14,075	13,998	-1%
⊕ Buckinghamshire	10,574	11,018	4%
⊕ Milton Keynes	8,562	8,781	3%
⊕ Bracknell and Wokingham	5,222	5,365	3%
⊕ Slough	5,351	5,317	-1%
⊕ Reading	4,589	4,468	-3%
⊕ Windsor and Maidenhead	3,018	3,050	1%
⊕ West Berkshire	2,867	2,883	1%
⊕ LPA not recorded	1,067	1,128	6%
⊕ Out of Force	329	192	-42%
<b>Total</b>	<b>55,654</b>	<b>56,200</b>	<b>1%</b>

6.7 Over quarter 1 & 2 of 2024/25 the current commissioned provider (Hestia) has supported survivors across Slough, as shown below.

Year	2024/25
Survivors supported by IDVA	301

6.8 Evidence also showed that children were listed as present in a high proportion (50%) of DA occurrences (Incidents and crimes), and that high numbers of children were associated with Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) cases.

- 6.9** Findings found a strong correlation between locations and indices of deprivation, indicating opportunities to consider how to ensure targeted localised service provision.
- 6.10** The Purpose of Slough DA Partnership Board is to develop the strategic approach to DA across the SSP. The shared commitment is to ensure there is a partnership strategy and partnership action plan to address DA and the impact on children (as victims in their own right), vulnerable adults, and families. This will also include the Housing Safe Accommodation element, which will have a standalone strategy as set out in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.

**6.11 Key work undertaken to date – 2024 / 2025:**

- Workforce development training for Domestic Molestation Order, Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference DASH training, Power hours and Domestic Abuse Champions for delivery over 2024/2025 has been commissioned
- DHR process has now commenced (Domestic Abuse Related Death Review) for both outstanding reviews – update: one review has ceased due to no services involved with the victim and local learning will be conducted. The second review will be progressing to the next stage of first panel meetings.
- New East Berkshire MARAC Quality Assurance Group (MQAG) is co-chaired by DA Co-ordinators for Slough, RBWM and Bracknell, along with Stefan McLaughlin (Police) and Sue Carrington (BHFT MARAC Coordinator).
- Service Level Agreement in place with SAFE! for work with children as victims.
- 16 Days of Activism ran 25th November – 10th December 2024
- New Data Analyst post within Community Safety Team now collecting partnership data and feeding trends back into Board.
- Domestic Abuse Strategy Launched 18th October 2024 at Slough Exploitation and Violence Event (Practitioners)
- DA task and Finish groups set up, for Children as victims, Perpetrators, MQAG, NFPF now assigned with a key lead from the Board to deliver on priorities identified as part of our **action plan**

**6.12 Priority lead progress summary of DA Plan – our successes so far**

**6.13** The new DA Strategy has been approved by the Health and Wellbeing Board. We are already seeing the positive impact of the DA Strategy in focussing our work across the partnership.

**6.14** The use of grant funding has enabled us to build in an offer to children as victims and a multi-agency training offer which will improve the quality of support, intervention and for victims to both reduce and prevent harm.

**6.15** The DA Board is now embedded with clear accountability and expectations on Board members which they are consistently responding to, including the provision of data to feed into the overall DA dashboard.

**6.16** The challenges around developing a Safe Accommodation strategy have been highlighted by this group and remain our highest risk as we are not meeting our statutory responsibilities in this area as a Local Authority.

### **6.17 Opportunities and Challenges**

- Opportunities for partners to come together and provide multi-agency awareness raising and comms at key events i.e. White Ribbon Day, 16 days of Activism etc.
- Delivery of new training offer linked to Multi-Agency Learning + Development Forum will ensure practitioners across key agencies receive MARAC DASH training. This will strengthen safety planning and support for victims across agencies
- Renew our DA Champions approach and provide training
- Key challenge is where we are not meeting statutory obligations regarding Safe Accommodation Strategy. This has been raised at Director level and being addressed currently.

### **6.18 Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR's)**

**6.19** Section 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act (2004) - implemented in April 2011. This Act made it a statutory responsibility for Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) to complete a Domestic Homicide Review (DHR) when a case meets the criteria set in the Home Office guidance.

**6.20** The purpose of a DHR is not to reinvestigate the death or apportion blame, but to establish 'what lessons are to be learned' from the domestic homicide. It scrutinises the way local professionals and organisations work individually and together to safeguard victims.

**6.21 Slough DHR's:** - Since 2011, we have received notification of two cases and the following provide the latest update for 2022-2024. Both received Home Office authorisation to progress.

- DHR1 – Underway - Independent chair and author appointed and initial meeting has happened.
- DHR 2 – Closed – A case conference was convened with an independent chair but due to the nature of the death and that no agency really had any information on the victim it was felt that no learning for any organisation was possible, The Home office have been involved and agreed with the approach.

## 7 **Serious violence - Priority Lead: Thames Valley Police**

### 7.1 Project Summary.

- To develop a strategic approach and plan to address the increases in Violence that Slough has experienced.
- To ensure that Slough meets its obligations in respect of the Serious Violence Duty.

### 7.2 Objectives:

- Reduction in crime, risk and demand, through a preventative (public health) approach.

### 7.3 Key work undertaken – 2023-2024

- SSP Partnership implemented the serious violence strategy and action plan with a graduated response from prevention, through to early intervention and enforcement.
- Serious Violence Board meets quarterly and has adopted the action plan to steer work and have oversight of activity being delivered by partners.
- Serious violence action plan is tracked by partners with a RAG rating of action and activity being undertaken at primary, secondary, tertiary and leadership level.
- Knife crime and violence partnership briefings continue to be held monthly providing update on data, habitual knife carriers, known individuals involved in violence at a primary, secondary and tertiary level.
- Operational level of activity of enforcement includes Op Cuba, Hot Spot patrols, daily tasking team looking at knife crime and serious violence
- SVROs (serious violence reduction orders) granted (which means individuals can be searched without any 'reasonable suspicion' grounds).
- Diversionary projects are underway including: Street Games, community detached youth outreach work, youth justice projects
- Work with schools including Hive project (Together as One), PHSE network Choices workshops (Lime), Stay True to You assemblies (Storyy Group) and training (Thames Valley Violence Prevention Partnership), Knife Angel legacy art project (Art Classes Group)



- Safer Langley – the Clear Hold Build project launched and underway with a focus on addressing serious organised crime to then enable the ground to be ‘held’ before a ‘build’ phase in the community. This is a multi-agency approach to enforcing and then restoring resilience and trust in Langley through work focussing on crime, anti-social behaviour, health and wellbeing, youth work, business and employability and resident engagement.
- Safer Streets 5 funding continued into the second year with the Street Guardian scheme expanding from the town centre into Langley, cultural awareness training with the Roma Support Charity, partnership work looking at violence against women and girls such as street lighting and safety in the town centre, bystander theory training and SAFE working with schools.
- Team Around the School pilot launched with Lynch Hill, Beechwood, Langley Academy and Wexham secondary schools taking a holistic and multi-agency approach to looking at safety and harm.
- Hospital Navigator Scheme pilot continued. To date: 265 referrals this financial year. The Hospital Navigator Scheme (HNS) was commissioned by Thames Valley Violence Reduction Unit as part of a public health approach to violence reduction within the community for three years (ending 31 Mar '25). The pilot scheme involves a Hospital Navigator co-ordinator to work with a team of volunteers who are based in the Emergency Department (ED) – for Slough at Wexham Park Hospital. The Navigators engage with young people who present for emergency treatment – either as a direct experience of violence, or the possible root causes of violence, such as substance abuse or mental health crises.

In Slough, the charitable organisation providing the HNS for the past three years has been Together as One. The Navigator connects with the vulnerable young people which can lead to ongoing support beyond the hospital to obtain necessary specialist input from community services (such as housing, counselling, substance misuse support, long-term mentorship, employment, group work etc.).

- Serious Violence Board meeting – revised terms of reference and clear governance to be refreshed. Now with quarterly meetings. Next meeting 9th January 2025.
- Hot spot patrols – 4 hotspots for Slough, 3 under serious violence and 1 under ASB: High Street, Farnham Road, Chalvey and Langley. Data is not available for July, but 164 valid patrols in hotspots for August and 221 for September (combined increase of 120 patrols compared to May/June). YTD to end of September 34705 minutes of patrol activity (Q1: 18867 minutes, Q2 15838 minutes).

## 7.4 Opportunities and challenges

- Bring together the 'long-term' preventative approach under one umbrella. We need to better integrate the 'public health approach to drugs', and how this will drive our overall partnership approach.
- As above, develop better co-ordination of the long-term approach, ensuring a consistent, co-ordinated approach to working with young people. Street Games has now linked with the Community and Detached Youth Team
- Serious Violence strategy action plan is aligned with the Exploitation Strategy
- Safe Spaces – have had scheme before and exists on-line in Slough but transfer to what is seen in public requires development. Community Safety to lead on this.
- MACE for children, the transition phase from child to adult remains challenging. There is pressure here for young people who transition from youth services to adult services.
- Community concern / not feeling safe. The result of the community safety survey showed community concerns to include Violence/Gangs and Drugs. A recent local meeting with council leads had the Mosques wanting to know how to be involved in anti-knife crime messaging.
- There have been significant cases occur in Slough which have had far-reaching effects, including the murder on 11/09/2024 and the death on 24/09/2024.
- Capacity - Police and partner resources are stretched. The council remain in S114 measures. Police numbers have been maintained on Neighbourhood team since increase recorded in Q1. PCSO recruitment remains challenging. Local Policing is moving to a Local Command Unit (LCU) East Berkshire, and it will be Slough, Windsor and Maidenhead and Bracknell together. Neighbourhood officers will remain, but the problem-solving team (Insp Peter Lawman) will no longer exist. This will require a change in working practices to deliver in a similar way.
- Information sharing. - The system and collation of partner intelligence and information could work better. Seems to take a lot of work to get information. Development of a digital submission system is being rolled out.
- Serious Violence Referral Order – there is a clear challenge in obtaining these. Theoretically should work, but there is a barrier in the justice system in obtaining them, with TVP as a whole only having 7% of a total of 458 applications granted, 32% are still pending but 58% were refused or discontinued. A further challenge exists with people who live/move out of the area they offend in, as enforcement then becomes a challenge.

**7.5** The following table gives serious violence crime figures for Slough April – Dec 2024

Classification	Apr il	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	3	7	3	2	4	3	5	4	2	33
Murder of persons aged 1 year or over; Genocide or Crime against humanity						2				2
Non-fatal strangulation or suffocation	1	1				1	1		1	5
Rape of female over 16 years				1						1
Rape of male 16 years or over	1									1
Robbery - Business	1	1		1	1					4
Robbery - Personal	4	11	4	5	8	6	4	2	2	46
Threats to kill		2	1						2	5
Wound or inflict GBH with or without weapon	2	5	6	2	2	3	3	4	5	32
Wounding with intent to do GBH	5	1	2	4	4	2	4	4	4	30
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>159</b>

Classification	N	Y	Grand Total
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	29	4	33
Murder of persons aged 1 year or over; Genocide or Crime against humanity	2		2
Non-fatal strangulation or suffocation		5	5
Rape of female over 16 years		1	1
Rape of male 16 years or over	1		1
Robbery - Business	4		4
Robbery - Personal	46		46
Threats to kill	3	2	5
Wound or inflict GBH with or without weapon	20	12	32
Wounding with intent to do GBH	20	10	30
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>159</b>

Weapon Used	Count
Bladed implement	94
Bladed implement; Non bladed implement	1
No weapon used	44
Non bladed implement	10
Unknown	3
Unknown; No weapon used	1
Blank	6
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>159</b>

Please see below for 2023 April - Dec

Classification	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm	2	7	3	2	4	5	2	6	4	35
Assault on emergency Worker (Not Police): Malicious wounding or inflict GBH with or without weapon									1	1
Assault with intent to Rob - Personal								1	1	2
Attempted murder; Attempted genocide or crime against humanity								1		1
Murder of persons aged 1 year or over; Genocide or Crime against humanity						1				1
Non-fatal strangulation or suffocation					1			1		2
Rape of female over 16 years							1			1
Robbery - Business	1			1		1			3	6
Robbery - Personal	5	4	6	7	4	5	7	2	5	45
Sexual assault on a female 13 or over		1								1
Threats to kill	1	1		1	3	2	2	2	1	13
Wound or inflict GBH with or without weapon	5	1	4	4	2	1	4	3	2	26
Wounding with intent to do GBH	2	1	3	2	4	6	1	3	2	24
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>158</b>

Knife Y, Knife N offences

Classification	N	Y	Grand Total
Assault occasioning actual bodily harm		35	35
Assault on emergency Worker (Not Police): Malicious wounding or inflict GBH with or without weapon	1		1
Assault with intent to Rob - Personal		2	2
Attempted murder; Attempted genocide or crime against humanity	1		1
Murder of persons aged 1 year or over; Genocide or Crime against humanity		1	1
Non-fatal strangulation or suffocation		2	2
Rape of female over 16 years		1	1
Robbery - Business		6	6
Robbery - Personal		45	45
Sexual assault on a female 13 or over		1	1
Threats to kill		13	13
Wound or inflict GBH with or without weapon	20	6	26
Wounding with intent to do GBH	14	10	24
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>158</b>

Weapon Used	Count
Bladed implement	96
Bladed implement;Non bladed implement	3
Firearm	2
Firearm;Bladed implement	3
Glass	2
No weapon used	39
Non bladed implement	9
Unknown	2
Unknown; Glass	1
Blank	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>158</b>

**8.1 ASB is a general term and can be used to describe a variety of different incidents. Individual tolerance levels can differ to the extent that what may be considered as ASB to one person is not regarded as such to another.**

**8.2 SBC has adopted the definition of ASB as stated in in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, namely**

- conduct that has caused, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm, or distress to any person
- conduct capable of causing nuisance or annoyance to a person in relation to that person's occupation of residential premises or
- conduct capable of causing housing-related nuisance or annoyance to any person.

8.3 ASB generally falls into these categories:

- Personal harm - where an individual or individuals are targeted and suffer physical, mental, or emotional harm. It is recognised that some people are more likely to be negatively impacted by ASB where there are specific vulnerabilities, or where they are repeat victims. Hate incidents fall within this category.
- Public nuisance – when an individual behaves in a way that has the potential to cause suffering or annoyance to a community.
- Environmental harm - behaviour that causes harm to the wider environment such as buildings and public spaces.

8.4 ASB can include a range of behaviours including but not limited to noise nuisance, intimidation, harassment, abusive language, threatening behaviour, fly-tipping, selling drugs, misuse of alcohol, use of CCTV to invade another's privacy and damage to property.

### **What is NOT considered to be Anti-Social Behaviour**

There are some issues that are reported to the council that are not considered to be ASB. These include:

- Noise from children playing
- Low level neighbour disputes, e.g. boundaries
- Inconsiderate parking
- Family disputes

Highway parking complaints, unless there is significant and repetitive obstruction involved  
People gathering socially  
Lifestyle choice differences  
One-off noise disturbances  
Reasonable noise from vehicles on the highway  
High hedge complaints.

### **8.5 Project Summary.**

- To develop the strategic approach to ASB across the SSP, ensuring there is a partnership strategy and partnership plan to address demand, risk and vulnerability. To insure there is an effective ASB case review process in place.

### **8.2 Objectives:**

- Reduce demand of personal, environmental and nuisance ASB
- Reduce repeat caller/victim demand
- Provide a victim centred approach underpinned with an effective ASB case review process
- Ensure there is an effective partnership response to complex ASB based on threat, harm, risk and demand
- Ensure that the approach to ASB is underpinned with a cogent problem-solving model.

### **8.6 Key work undertaken – 2024**

- ASB Policy is in the final stages of being completed
- PSPO is completed and live
- ASB case review process continues to work well
- SAPS meeting to be reviewed to focus on ASB

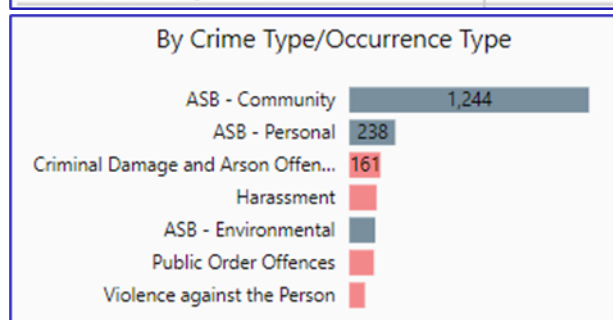
### **8.7 Opportunities and Challenges**

- Staff structures – the council and Police ASB functions need reviewing. We need to assess capacity and capability to deliver. First stages of this are in progress.
- The Launch of the ASB action plan provides us with the focus needed to shape a partnership approach.
- Thames Valley Police Crimefighters plan brings a focus on crime reporting, community policing and crime prevention.

- Community Safety analyst is now in post, and we can look at gathering more data.

**8.8** The following table shows ASB reports to police from April 2024 to Dec 2024 compared with the same period last year.

LPA	Count Previous	Count Current	Count Change	% Change
<b>Slough</b>	<b>2,246</b>	<b>2,216</b>	<b>-30</b>	<b>-1%</b>
CA CHALVEY / UPTON / TOWN	620	638	18	3%
CA WEXHAM LEA / CENTRAL	325	349	24	7%
CA BRITWELL / HAYMILL	247	273	26	11%
CE COLNBROOK / POYLE / FOXBOROUGH	273	252	-21	-8%
CA FARNHAM / BAYLIS / STOKE	302	250	-52	-17%
CA CIPPENHAM	259	240	-19	-7%
CE LANGLEY / KEDERMISTER	212	206	-6	-3%



**8.9** This table shows the ASB reports compared to other Local Authorities and per 1000 population.

LPA	Count Previous	Count Current	Count Change	% Change	Current per 1000 Pop
Oxfordshire	6,343	6,493	150	2%	2.58
Buckinghamshire	4,736	4,772	36	1%	1.90
Milton Keynes	3,432	3,491	59	2%	1.39
Reading	2,784	2,784	0	0%	1.11
Bracknell and Wokingham	2,681	2,772	91	3%	1.10
Slough	2,246	2,216	-30	-1%	0.88
West Berkshire	1,859	1,970	111	6%	0.78
Windsor and Maidenhead	1,216	1,360	144	12%	0.54
Out of Force	60	58	-2	-3%	0.02
Not recorded	7	26	19	271%	0.01
<b>Thames Valley</b>	<b>25,364</b>	<b>25,942</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>10.31</b>



## 9

## Substance Use Priority Lead – SBC Public Health

### 9.1 Project Summary.

- Combating Drug Partnership Slough Substance Use Partnership
- Slough Substance Use Partnership – a plan on a page
- Supplementary Substance Misuse Treatment Grant (SSMTR)
- Rough Sleepers Drug & Alcohol Treatment Grant (RSDATG)
- Drug & Alcohol substance use rapid needs assessment.

### 9.2 Objectives:

- To support both the CDP SSU partnership and SSU partnership
- To support both SSMTR and RSDATG grants
- To provide key findings (data) to the Substance use Summit (14/11/23) and share the same findings from the rapid SU HNA with key partners in a joined-up approach while developing a local action plan.

### 9.3 Key work undertaken 2024

- Turning Point (TP) have been providing outreach with the Young People Service in the evenings. As a follow up from the idea of stab kits being provided to local late opening shops Turning Point are considering providing Naloxone kits.
- We are waiting for confirmation from the national teams regarding both SSMTR & RSDATG grants. There are concerns with regards to the current scenario planning phase in case of any potential changes of end of funding by March 2025. That case scenario could potentially reduce or end the provision for some of our criminal justice and rough sleepers' services.
- TP are providing nitazene test strips to service users for harm reduction.
- TP are performing in the top quartiles for 4 cohorts of successful completions. So, this would increase the likelihood of gaining and maintaining abstinence.
- Individual placement and support (IPS) employment services programme started 1st September. Currently in preparation stages for full launch in December 2024.

### 9.4 Opportunities and challenges

- Information sharing between TVP and the treatment service to be agreed (Section 115)

- Any other data sharing issues
- A more systematic approach to referring into the treatment system
- An effective care coordination approach for joint working across partner services reducing the need to refer on.
- An agreed plan on a page that the partnership works jointly together on
- As part of the 'plan on a page' we are in the process of designing a specific promotional approach and work with our Comms team to raise awareness around D&A substance use among young people and reaching certain communities considered to be at higher risk

**9.5** The table below shows the number of crimes in Slough that have a flag for substance misuse (drugs or alcohol). **Slough has seen a reduction in recorded offences of 24% in 2024 when compared to 2023.**

Home Office Crime Stats Classification	2023	2024	Total
VAP	626	466	1092
DISORDER	115	85	200
CD&A	47	41	88
DRUGS	43	40	83
THEFT	50	32	82
WEAPONS	21	20	41
RAPE	20	16	36
OTHER SEX	17	14	31
ROBBERY	6	8	14
MISC	5	1	6
ACTION-FRAUD	1		1
<b>Total</b>	<b>951</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>1674</b>

## 10. Other Partnership themes

### 10.1 Business safety

**10.2** The SSP work in partnership with Slough Town Centre Bid Team and is currently supporting the application to the Accreditation Scheme for the Business Improvement District Street Wardens. The accreditation of additional powers awarded to the Street Wardens will be authorised and agreed by TVP Chief Constable. This is underway and Lodge Security are on track to be accredited early 2025.

### 10.3 Slough's BID Safe and Secure **business plan aims to:**

- BID & businesses to work together to tackle ASB
- Making Slough Town Centre a welcoming and safe environment for residents, customers, businesses and workers
- Encourage, update and expansion of Pub Watch Radio Scheme to include all businesses implementing a banned from one banned from all.

- Funding a Town Team
- Supporting Businesses to report crime
- Improve Security Infrastructure with additional CCTV coverage
- BID is working with TVP as a representative voice for the business.

**10.4** The top three highest incidents recorded in the town centre are 1) Theft and Fraud, 2) ASB and Verbal abuse, 3) Violence and Abusive behaviour. The Bid Board therefore approved the application for the Street Wardens to receive additional powers through the Accredited Scheme. This will aim to help manage the growing challenges and demands.

**10.5** In support of this, the SSP gained Safe Street 5 grant funding for 2 years (2023-2025) from Thames Valley PCC, to help set up a Slough Street Guardian scheme, in the town centre. This will be a pilot for the area.

**10.6** This involves a volunteer-led scheme providing reassuring and visible presence to signpost people to support and help. In partnership with voluntary sector, TVP, SBC, faith groups, Slough BID and Slough Community Transport are working in partnership, to ensure positive outcomes for the community. The first briefing session with the volunteers was held on 7 March 2024 evening. Further briefing sessions will be held over the coming months. The SSP aim to roll this out wider for Slough, once the pilot scheme is established.

## **11. CCTV**

**11.1** Since the Council's decision to cease funding of its own CCTV in 2024 and closure of the Careline service control room, there has been ongoing work to remove and close off the infrastructure that remained in place. This work continues to date

**11.2** The Office of the Police Crime Commissioner have approached Local Authorities and police partners in the Thames Valley area to ask them to contribute to the continuation of CCTV that monitored through the control room at Milton Keynes, which include cameras in key areas of Slough.

**11.3** In addition, the OPCC have requested a contribution from the council to the wider Thames Valley Partnership. These negotiations continue, with a joint paper going to the SSP meeting in January 2025 from SBC and OPCC to the SSP. This will propose that the SBC contribution to CCTV, the remaining cabling costs required to service this, and the TV Partnership financing should be met from using the Community Safety Grant allocation from the OPCC office. This is not a statutory grant supplied by the OPCC, but it provides funding to Local Authorities based on crime levels. That is used to support community safety projects and programmes in the local area.

**11.4** Unfortunately, this will reduce the amount of Community Safety grant that the partnership will be able to use to fund community safety projects going forward.

## **12. Implications**

## 12.0 Financial implications

**12.0** Although there is a clear focus on the growing challenges and demands locally to reduce crime and disorder, new duties on serious crime and domestic abuse in this paper, there are no direct financial implications because it is purely for information purposes.

## 13. Legal implications

13.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 sets out responsibilities for local authorities and other statutory bodies to work together in a statutory partnership and to collectively formulate and implement strategies to reduce crime and disorder in the area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment), combat the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in the area and reduce serious violence.

13.2 The Council also has an overarching duty under s.17 of the 1998 Act to exercise its functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment), the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in its area and re-offending in its area and serious violence in its area.

13.3 The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007 set out further requirements for responsible bodies forming a CSP. This includes:

- Having a strategy group whose function is to prepare strategic assessments and prepare and implement a partnership plan for the area on behalf of the responsible bodies. This group must have in place arrangements governing the review of the expenditure of partnership monies and for assessment the economy, efficiency, and effectiveness of such expenditure.
- The strategy group must have in place arrangements for the sharing of information between responsible authorities and shall prepare a protocol setting out those arrangements.
- The strategy group shall prepare a strategic assessment on behalf of the responsible authorities, the purpose being to assist the strategy group in revising the partnership plan
- The strategy group shall prepare a partnership plan taking account of the strategic assessment and any community safety agreement. The partnership plan shall set out a strategy for reduction of re-offending, crime and disorder, prevention and reduction of serious violence and for combating substance misuse in the area, priorities identified in the strategic assessment prepared during the year, steps the strategy group consider it necessary for the responsible authorities to take to implement that strategy and meet those priorities, how the strategy group consider the responsible authorities should allocate and deploy

their resources to implement that strategy and meet those priorities, the steps each responsible authority shall take to measure its success in implementing the strategy and meeting those priorities and the steps the strategy group propose to take during the year to comply with its obligations

- The strategy group shall make arrangements for obtaining the views of persons and bodies who live or work in the area about the levels and patterns of re-offending, crime and disorder, serious violence and substance misuse in the area, and the matters which the responsible authorities should prioritise when exercising their functions in relation to these matters. This must include at least one public meeting during the year and that meetings are attended by persons who hold a senior position within each of the responsible authorities.
- The partnership plan must be published in such a form as it considers appropriate.

## **14. Equalities**

- 14.1 There are no equality impact implications arising directly from this report. However, there are differential impacts on individuals, families, and communities in respect of issues that the SSP seeks to address. This needs to be borne in mind when planning and delivering work and services.
- 14.2 The SSP address known inequalities relating to community safety and have due regard to all being given equality of opportunity, human rights, prevention of crime and disorder, environmental and risk management considerations as appropriate.
- 14.3 The strategic aim of the SSP is to foster a safer cohesive borough. It seeks to do so by tackling specific community safety issues, including violent crime, hate crime, domestic abuse, exploitation, modern slavery, repeat victimisation, and reoffending.
- 14.4 The SSP plans and outcomes strengthen services that support victims and survivors of domestic abuse. These include children and young people and male victims, as well as those individuals who may be more at risk of domestic abuse by reason of their sexual orientation, gender, gender reassignment, race or disability.

## **15. Risk Management implications**

Risk	Description	Action to avoid or mitigate risk	Residual Risk 2024	Jan 2025
Lack of scrutiny of SSP	Failure to provide effective and efficient scrutiny and accountability of SSP functions resulting in service failure	Thematic leads to ensure monthly action plans/reports are submitted and scrutinised to identify points of potential failure and address.		This is now done at every SSP meeting
Partnership collaboration breakdown	Lack of synergy and resources between partners that results in poor performance and greater operating costs through 'silo working'	Develop proposals for integrating some of the functions of the Community Safety Partnership and SSP to drive efficiencies with the right resources. To also adopt the new SBC framework to enhance governance.		
Failure to effectively collect crime/ASB data and share information/intelligence	Failure to gather, share or use relevant information across the partnership to save lives or reduce/detect crime	CST to appoint a data analyst in Sept 2024 to help to capture relevant information and data streams across the partnership. This has already seen advantages in data gathering and myth busting around DA & ASB		In place this is giving better partnership data/links for DA and ASB
Ineffective representation on SSP	Accountable bodies not providing or resourcing meetings at the correct level to engage or make meaningful decision	Annually review Terms of Reference and membership of all SSP, Community Safety meetings to ensure the right people at the right level are attending meetings.		Attendance is good and at appropriate level to date.
Failure to comply with DA Act 2021	No Housing Safe Accommodation Strategy	No governance and development plans to provide safe accommodation for victims and families of DA.		DA lead to begin to develop work on this Q4.

## 16. Environmental implications

16.1 There are no known environmental implications arising from this report.