



Test Valley Community Safety Partnership: Strategic Assessment 2019/20:

June 2020.

This assessment covers incidents in regards to Crime and Community Safety in the Test Valley Partnership area for the period from 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020. In mid-March 2020, the UK suffered the Covid-19 pandemic and was instructed under government guidelines to lockdown on 23rd March, which continued beyond the end of the financial year. Despite coming at the end of this reporting period, it should be noted that this may have had an impact on the figures produced in this assessment. It is likely that some areas will have noted a logical reduction in reports in this period whilst others will be expected to see an increase in levels of reporting, for example Domestic Abuse. However it is not possible to quantify the full impact of this at this time.

Crime Data (2019/20 vs 2018/19): ¹

Test Valley District:

Crime Type:	No.	+/-	% Change
• Homicide	1	(-1)	-50%
• Violence with Injury	989	(+14)	1.4%
• Violence without Injury	1,922	(+220)	12.9%
• Rape	108	(+17)	18.7%
• Other Sexual Offences	200	(+37)	22.7%
• Robbery of Business	12	(-9)	-42.9%
• Robbery of Personal Property	51	(-6)	-10.5%
• Residential Burglary	475	(+57)	+14.2%
• Burglary (Business and Community)	200	(-107)	-34.9%
• Vehicle Offences	587	(+37)	1.2%
• Theft from person	53	(+4)	8.2%
• Bicycle Theft	69	(-5)	-6.8%
• Shoplifting	427	(-158)	-27%
• Criminal damage	734	(-3)	-0.4%
• Arson	26	(+3)	13%
• Trafficking of Drugs	58	(+19)	48.7%
• Possession of Drugs	136	(-1)	-0.7%
• Possession of Weapons	96	(+19)	24.7%

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ANNEX

• Public Order	779	(+113)	17%
• Anti-Social Behaviour	1,542	(-332)	-17.67%
• Rural Crime	1,698	(+4)	+0.24%
• Total Crime	7,711	(+73)	+0.96%

Test Valley by Area*:

Crime Type:	North		South	
	No.	+/-	No.	+/-
• Homicide	0	(-2)	1	(+1)
• Violence with Injury	629	(-14)	350	(+24)
• Violence without Injury	1,177	(+94)	731	(+133)
• Rape	63	(+6)	39	(+11)
• Other Sexual Offences	125	(+27)	63	(+2)
• Robbery of Business	2	(-3)	10	(-6)
• Robbery of Personal Property	30	(-4)	19	(-4)
• Residential Burglary	232	(+52)	243	(+7)
• Burglary (Business and Community)	103	(-52)	97	(-55)
• Vehicle Offences	264	(+27)	321	(+37)
• Theft from person	31	(+1)	19	(+1)
• Bicycle Theft	35	(-9)	34	(+4)
• Shoplifting	272	(-87)	155	(-71)
• Criminal damage	408	(+5)	324	(-8)
• Arson	11	(-5)	15	(+8)
• Trafficking of Drugs	43	(+17)	15	(+2)
• Possession of Drugs	91	(-3)	45	(+2)
• Possession of Weapons	58	(+13)	38	(+6)
• Public Order	465	(+33)	306	(+73)
• Anti-Social Behaviour	884	(-178)	658	(-153)
• Total Crime	4,469	(-26)	3,177	(+74)

* Figures split may not exactly total report numbers.

In 2019/20, Total Crime in Test Valley rose by 0.96% (from +2.49% in 2018/19), this is lower than the overall rate of increase for the county (+1.9%). The crime level represents 3.67% of all crime

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reported across the county (from 3.71% in 2018/19). Statistically, crime rates in Test Valley are the fourth lowest levels of overall crime by district in the county (from sixth in 2018/19).¹

Within the district, the wards with the highest overall levels of reported incidents are St Marys, and Alamein (unchanged from previous year), followed by Winton and Abbey. When analysed on the basis of population the wards with the highest pro-rata levels are St Marys, Abbey and Alamein (also unchanged).¹

Of the incidents reported overall 3,090 incidents took place in a public place (previously 3,043); 627 involved alcohol and/or drugs, a decrease of 16 (2.5%), and 147 involved a bladed weapon (139) representing 1.9% of total crimes.¹

Rural crime increased by a total of 4 reports over the year, but fell in each of the final three quarters compared to the same period previously, after increasing by 51 in comparable quarter ones. This contrasts with an increase of 9.5% the previous year.¹

Across Test Valley victims of crime were broadly equal between males (37.41%) and females (37.34%) where this was stated. 32.7% identified as 'White', 0.86% as 'Asian' and 0.6% as 'Black' (66.22% were not known or unstated). Victim Support assisted 476 people from Test Valley, of which the majority (278) were female; 303 were from Andover, 86 from Romsey and 18 from Stockbridge.¹

1,162 reports of Domestic Abuse were recorded in Test Valley on 2019/20, an increase of 83 from 1,079 in 2018/9. Of these 241 (20.7%) were linked to the use or drink or drugs. Test Valley has the sixth lowest rates of recorded Domestic Abuse in the county with 4.8% of all reports received.¹

A total of 133 incidents were recorded as 'Hate Crimes', up from 114 in 2018/19, of these 6 were related to faith or religion (up from four previously); 79 (72) were racially motivated, 1 gender plus 31 sexuality related, and 15 (20) disability based. This equates to 1.031 per 100,000 of population (from 0.926) and remains the sixth lowest local authority rate in the county¹. Whilst it is not possible to quantify its impact on a local basis, it is thought that the implications of Brexit may have influenced these reports to some degree

A total of 244 road traffic accidents took place in the Test Valley district in 2019/20. Of these 6 involved fatalities; 70 were deemed 'serious' and 168 were 'slight'. The rates of the killed or seriously injured (KSI) in Test Valley are higher (65.3) than the South East regional and national rates (49.6 / 46.2).¹

Anti-Social Behaviour:

Analysis of the available data shows that reports of incidents of ASB have continued to fall by a further 332 incidents (-17.67%) in 2019/20 (from -3.9% in 2018/19). From its peak in 2011 at 1,234 in Quarter 2 of that year, reports fell to 350 in Quarter 4 of 2019/20 (latest available figures).¹

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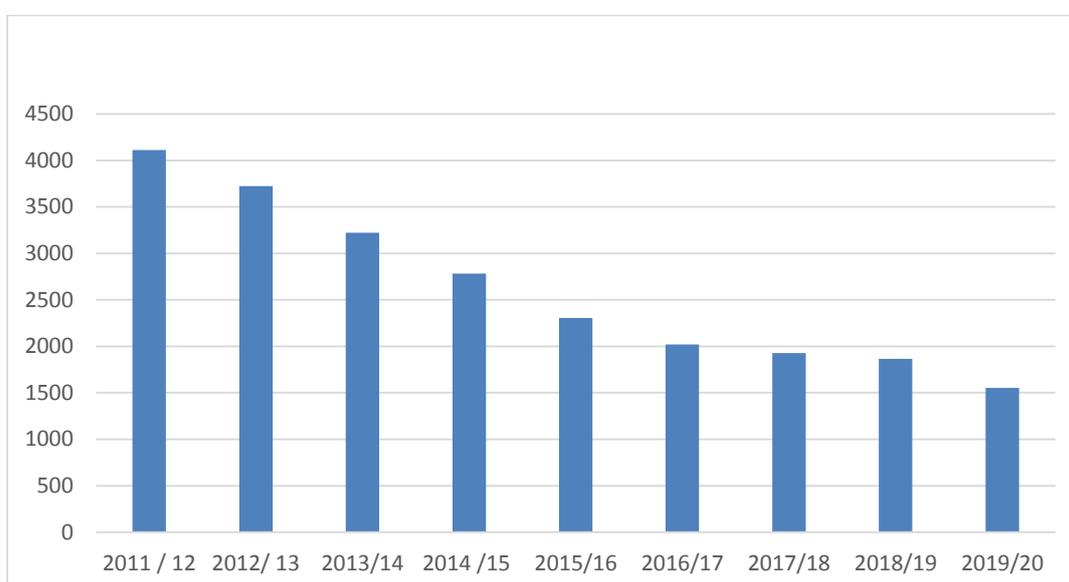
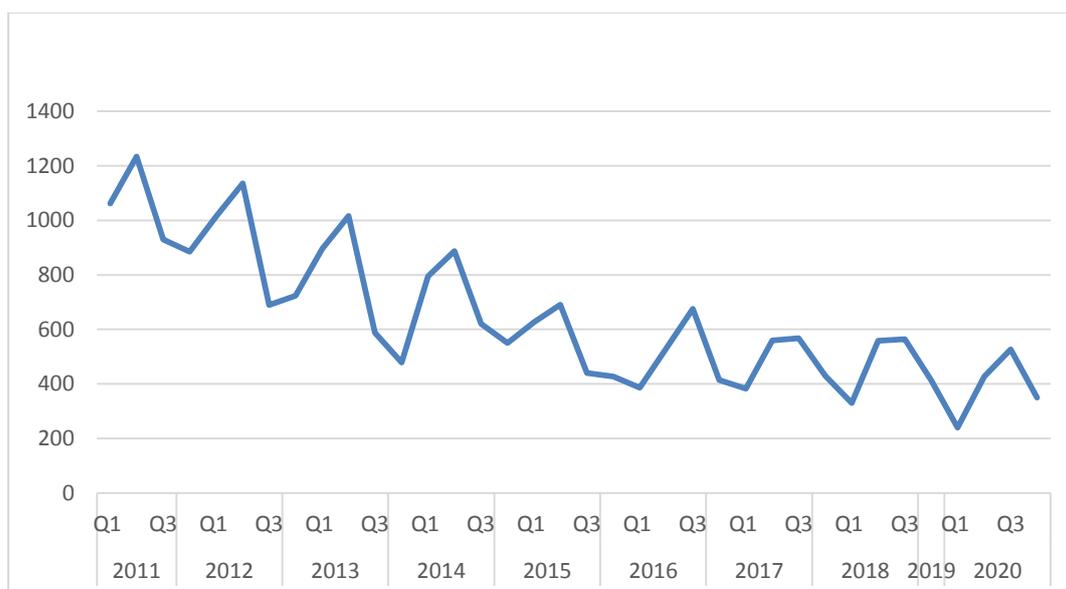
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Reported incidents in the North of Test Valley (including Mid-Test ward beats) were 884 a fall of 178 (16.5%) on the previous year. In the South, reports numbered 658, a fall of 18.9% (-153).

Serious Violence: ²

Hampshire Constabulary area was identified as one of 18 areas to receive funding for a Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) from the Home Office. This VRU will aim to reduce violence, using local broad and narrow definitions of most serious violence, with a focus on youth knife crime.

The VRU has produced a 'problem profile' covering the Hampshire County Council area, including the 11 districts and 9 community safety partnerships. Hampshire is a generally safe place to live with a

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lower crime rate than England and similar violent crime rate to the counties which are ranked as nearest neighbours.

Information provided by the Problem Profile report (Dec 2019) compiled by the Hampshire Violence Reduction Unit show that Test Valley has lower risk factors for involvement in Violence than both the national and county council average (where available) in the following areas:

- Narrow definition of MSV (Most Serious Violence), per 10,000 <25s [TV 6.7; HCC 6.8]
- Children in need (per 10,000) <18s [TV 6.0; HCC 6.1; Eng. 7.1]
- Est. % of mental health disorders [TV 8.2; HCC 8.4; Eng. 9.4]
- Hospital admissions for alcohol-specific conditions - Under 18s (per 100,00) [28.5; 30.6; 32.9]
- Children assessed by YOT [6.4; 8.3]
- Average attainment 8 score [49.9; 47.5; 46.7]
- Fixed period exclusion rate - All school types [3.35; 4.48; 5.08]
- Unauthorised absence % - All school types [0.9%; 1.0%; 1.4%]
- Children whose parents receiving domestic abuse support (rate per 1,000) [2.8; 5.5]
- Lone parent house-holds % [14%; 15%; 19%]
- % children living in low income families [9.4%; 10.2%; 17%]
- Deprivation - IMD 2019 [11.9; 12.7; 21.8]
- Statutory homeless (per 1000 households) [1; 1.2; 2.4]
- Household stability (lived here one year ago) [73.1%; 72.8]
- Deaths from drug misuse (DSR, 100,000) [2.8; 3.9; 4.5]
- Places licensed to sell alcohol per square km [0.6; 1.2]

Test Valley District has not been highlighted as one of the primary districts impacted by the highest risk factors (Community and Society; Relationships; and Individual factors) in Hampshire under this process, citing its low proportion of children in low income families; high educational achievement with low exclusion rates, but with a slightly lower proportions of owner occupiers and higher rates of unemployment. The broad definition rate of violence across Hampshire Constabulary (October 2016 to September 2019), ranks Test Valley as seventh and in line with the county average (per 1,000 population)

Using the Narrow Definition of Most Serious Violence, Test Valley ranks seventh lowest of the eleven districts in the rates of crime for the period Oct 2016-19, and the rate fell in the last year. It ranked 6th in rates of crime involving a bladed weapon, and for these crime types involving an individual under 25. Test Valley also had the ninth lowest rate of children being assessed by the Youth Offending Team, (to November 2017) and of parents receiving support from domestic abuse services (2019), but the fourth highest levels of children in need across Hampshire in 2019.

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The profile notes that Basingstoke, Rushmoor, and Test Valley there were a higher number of knife-related violent crimes. However, within each of these districts there is a large amount of variation. The data outlines clear areas of greater knife violence involving the under 25s including in Basingstoke, Farnborough and Andover. Within Test Valley, Andover has two areas within the top ten beats with higher counts of 'narrow definition most serious violence', where an offender of aggrieved under 25, and a knife was involved (2016-2019). These are Alamein (17 knife crimes) and St Marys (12).

Both areas are listed in the Hampshire Mental Health and Wellbeing Index most deprived decile. This index assesses the areas high vulnerabilities for material wellbeing (including high unemployment and income deprivation), life satisfaction (as measured from the Annual Population Survey), health (including proportion with a disability, lower life expectancy and health self-assessment measures) and strong and stable families (including higher lone parent households, social isolation and young carers). Local information believes this is in part linked to the known issues of county lines supplies.

A range of local initiatives are underway or planned to address the identified issues in regards to drug related and knife crime. The Community Safety Management Group has formulated a sub-group of relevant partners to discuss, inform and tackle drug related harm, alongside its existing Operation Fortress partnership groups. In addition, the Test Valley Partnership, Test Valley Borough council and Police are working with and supporting a local initiative developed by Yellow Brick Road and UpSkillU, known as the 'Legacy Project' which seeks to engage and mentor young people in Andover from schools and PRU with those with lived experiences of issues including County Lines, CCE, CSE and knife crime. The Partnership will also be working with the Hampshire VRU in contributing and developing its workstreams in these areas

Other Data:

Hampshire Fire & Rescue Service data shows that 212 fires (down from 267) were reported in Test Valley during 2019/20, of which 115 were accidental and 64 were deliberate actions. The majority of cases resulted from cooking, overheating or faulty fuel supplies or appliances. ¹

HF&RS completed a total of 25 safeguarding visits to residents, up from 24 in the previous year, 12 for adult males, 11 adult females and 2 others. Of these the largest number was for self-neglect (15, up from 8), and 4 for neglect (3). No visits took place in this year over concerns of modern slavery (1 in 2018/19). ¹

Data from the Andover Street Pastors⁶ for the period for April 2019 to 6th March 2020 (when services ceased due to Covid restrictions), showed they had made 1,085 personal contacts during 210 patrols supporting visitors to the night time economy in Andover Town centre. However they were only required to defuse one aggressive situation and made two safe space visits, whilst supporting 131 vulnerable people. They needed to administer first aid on only one occasion despite clearing 940 bottles / glasses etc., providing 182 drinks or flip flops, and arranging transport for five. No

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homelessness referrals to hostels were made by Street Pastors during the period for the second consecutive year.

Reports of incidents of ASB to Test Valley Borough Council increased from 38 to 74 in the year to March 2020⁸. Data from Radian Housing Association shows that with their local stock of 545 properties¹, they dealt with 9 incidents of ASB (down from 24 in 2018/19)⁷. Countywide, Aster Communities dealt with 280 cases during this period, of which 270 were resolved. They obtained 5 Civil Injunctions with the power of arrest attached and served 3 NOSPs when all other interventions had failed⁴.

Latest available Public Health data shows rates of violent crime requiring hospital admission in Test Valley are at 30.6 per 1,000 of population [2016/17 – 2018/19]. This is better than the regional (31.2) and national (44.9) reporting levels. Rates of violent crime (21.6 per 1,000 – up from 19.7) are also better than the averages (27.2 / 27.8 – both also increased from previous year) [2018/19]. Sexual offences locally follow a similar pattern (1.9 – down from 2.2; compared to 2.6 / 2.5 respectively – the latter two both increased year on year) [2018/19]¹.

Rates for hospital admissions shows that intentional self-harm requiring hospital admission, although reducing (225 from 230.7) continue to exceed the regional and national averages (199.7 / 193.4) [2018/19]. The reported suicide rate in Test Valley has decreased from 10.5 to 7.8, and is now under the regional and national averages (9.2/ 9.6 per 1,000) [2016-2018].¹

Latest available data shows death rates from substance misuse have fallen (2.8 / 3.1) year on year and remain better than the regional and national averages (3.9 / 4.5) [2016/18]. Rates of smoking also are better than in the Southern and England statistics (10.9 / 12.9 / 14.4) [2018], whilst admissions for alcohol related issues are better than regional averages and similar to the national rates (530 / 678 / 526.) in 2018/19.¹

Data shows that Test Valley has lower rates of pupil absence (4.42), than the South East (4.76) and national averages (4.81) (2017/18)¹.

No referrals were made to the Channel Panel from Prevent in the district in 2019/20³.

Test Valley reports a reoffending rate of 30.1, which exceeded the regional and national averages (27.6 / 29.1) in 2017/18 (latest available data). Noise complaints reported (4.6) are below the national and South East region averages (5.0 / 6.8) [2018/19].¹

Rates of statutory homeless people not in priority need are lower than regional and national levels (0.2 / 0.7 / 0.8) in 2017/18, as are the rates for homeless people in temporary accommodation (1.5 / 2.2 / 3.4).¹

A range of targeted early intervention, engagement and prevention models and partnership projects have continued to be implemented over the course of the year to help address the Test Valley

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Partnerships priority areas and impact on the levels of reported incidents. Details of some of these are shown below.

Community Safety Priorities: 2020/21

The Community Safety Management Group has reviewed its priorities for 2020/21, on the basis of the views and priorities of the Group partners, and the most recently available strategic and partner data. They will remain subject corroboration with Police's Force Control Strategy priorities and the priorities of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to ensure consistency of approach.

The draft proposals, subject to the agreement of the Test Valley Partnership Board, are as follows:

CSP Priority Areas for 2020/21:

- Community Crime Prevention and Public Safety. To increase public reassurance and confidence to report issues to public bodies.
- Anti-Social Behaviour, in particular including street-attached behaviours.
- Supporting Vulnerable People in Need, to include issues of Domestic Abuse, Scams (in particular Covid related), Hate Crimes and Modern Slavery.
- Positive engagement and early intervention with young people, to identify and address potential causal issues of behaviours.
- Drug related harm, and knife crime linked to 'County lines'.
- Maintain rural community confidence, through encouraging co-operative partnership amongst landowners and partners.
- To encourage co-operative partnership amongst agencies and community/voluntary sector groups working towards enhanced and positive communities.

A cross cutting theme for these priorities would be the impact and effect of the Covid-19 pandemic on each.

A partnership action plan for these priorities covering the period June 2020 - June 2021 will be drawn up and monitored by the Community Safety Management Group, and its sub groups, subject to their approval by the Test Valley Partnership.³

Project Updates:³

'Op Mazi': Following reports of Anti-Social Behaviour linked to street-attached individuals, mainly in Andover Town Centre, in the summer of 2018, 'Op Mazi' was launched by Police, TVBC and local specialist treatment and support service sector partners to address this. Effective partnership working, positive public perception, alongwith clear and transparent communications to the public regarding the actions taken were the keys to the success of this operation.

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Actions have included increased police and partner presence in the areas most affected, plus direct specialist engagement with those concerned to identify any vulnerabilities and issues, with subsequent referrals to partners for action on drink and drug related issues, housing and/or benefits as applicable.

During the course of 2019, 20 days of partnership action days took place, alongwith a six week summer operation, looking to work effectively with partners to establish long term solutions NOT just displace the issue to other areas of the town. There have been fewer reports of street drinking this year, and alcohol has continued to be confiscated. Between January and July 2019, a total of 85 'stops' were made by police under Op Mazi in the town centre⁵.

A market place stall was also held by partners to promote and educate the public on the work being done together to support local street attached people into accommodation and to address their individual needs. This session also aimed to encourage people not to give money directly to street attached people, rather to provide food or drink, or suggested options to give moneys to the groups supporting them, to ensure the money is used as intended by the giver.

12 homeless people were supported into accommodation as a direct result of the proactive working between police and partners. A further four were assisted but did not proceed, whilst others found their own accommodation or left the area. This resulted in a reduction in levels of street attached individuals present and in disrupting usual or as expected to prevent the escalation of ASB Nuisance from those begging in the area⁵

A total of 85 'C12A's' notices considering intention of serve formal 'Community Protection Warning Notices' were served under the terms of the Public Spaces Protection Order in place in the town centre. None of these proceed to become Community Protection Notices⁵

Community-MARAC – Following a review in 2018 it was decided to revise the previous 'Partnership Action Team' formats to become Community-MARACs [Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences] to better enable effective partnership involvement in case action planning using a Harm Centred Approach. All referrals received which are assessed as 'High Risk' will be heard at a case conference within 7 days.

In March 2020 this new process was evaluated, and RESOLVE ASB were asked to independently review the new systems and provide feedback and training to all partners. Positive feedback was revived on the new systems and processes, including praise for the diverse of range of partners fully engaged in this process, particularly citing the involvement of school representatives highlighted as good practice. Those partners with lesser or little engagement in the process were noted to be those agencies who were also reported to have similar issues elsewhere in the country, and measures continue to promote the benefits of engagement for all relevant partners in this process.

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In 2019-20, the C-MARACs had 37 cases referred and reviewed. 4 were assessed as High Risk, 23 as medium risk, and 10 as low risk. Of these, as at 3rd March, 30 cases had been closed 7 remained open. This shows the process is working to deliver resolutions to cases referred and that the majority of agencies are engaged in the process.

'ICE': As a result of scheduling issues around pre-exam sessions it was not possible to hold the scheduled summer ICE cohort in Romsey in 2019. However, a successful programme was completed in the autumn term. The third, spring cohort commenced but was forced to close early as a result of the Coronavirus outbreak and so participants did not complete the course. However, a total of 27 young people attended the bulk of the available sessions, of whom fifteen completed the whole programme.

Feedback from participants and partners continues to have been positive, both in terms of the course and its subsequent impact on attitudes and behaviours. One deputy head teacher was quoted as saying 'this course has provided invaluable support to a group of young people who often get overlooked and witnessed real growth in some of the students from the duration of the project'. Due to the Covid outbreak the programme will remain in abeyance during the summer of 2020 in line with guidance.

Big Band Buffet: Following the postponement of the Jan 2019 event, two Big Band Buffets took place in 2019-20, in June 2019 and Jan 2020, in Romsey and Stockbridge respectively. Each event was attended to capacity and attracted the highest number of agency and support group presence to date. In each case the participants rated the event as either 'good' or 'excellent' (98.5 and 100% respectively), and in being able to learn more about the services available and how to access them. To date over 1,100 people have attended these events, and an offer to sponsor an event in 2021 has been received from the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Community Sports: TVBC and Hampshire Police reorganised the format of the previous community sports programmes in 2019 to increase the capacity and effectiveness of the scheme and to target those most vulnerable and at risk whilst remaining a free and open to all session. The aim is continue to improve relationships and understanding between agencies and young people, and to break down barriers to effective engagement and communication between them.

Short informal sessions in the holidays were replaced with two larger events in Andover and Romsey which allowed for a more diverse and so attractive range of sporting options, including Football, Tennis, Athletics, Hockey, and other taster sessions led by professional trainers. The events were well attended with around 60 young people at each. Although pro-active steps were taken with a wide range of partners to attract a proportion of young people at risk prior to public invitation, the events did not achieve the levels hoped for and additional work, including using the positive feedback from this pilot will be undertaken to address this with partners for future sessions.

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CCTv: Following a review at the end of the existing CCTV contract, new areas for coverage were identified and a contract tendered. A new contractor has been appointed and as a result existing CCTV systems and footage are being upgraded. In addition, the coverage in the Andover Chantry Centre is now being incorporated into this system, along with new cameras covering the multi-storey car park, Town Mills, Lights Theatre underpass, and Sheppard's Spring Lane. The upgrade is due to be completed in July 2020. Plans are also being discussed for a possible camera in the War Memorial Park in Romsey.

PSPOs: Plans are under development for Public Space Protection Orders. Public and partner consultations have been completed on three proposed orders, one covering Andover Town Centre in regards to Anti-social behaviour, harassment and public health, plus two others which represented continuation of the terms of the former Designated Public Place Orders and Dog Control Orders. Interim PSPOs are currently in place for the latter two until October 2020. The revised orders (excluding the dog control orders) came into force on Tuesday 16th July 2010 and will be valid for three years.

Statutory Reporting Items: ³

Community Trigger: 'Community Trigger' is a statutory device which gives victims and communities the right to request a formal review of their case where circumstances of ASB meet a set threshold. CSP's are obliged to publish details of all Trigger requests and outcomes annually.

In 2019/20 one formal Community Trigger review request was received. However, this was rejected as it referred to a single agency and so was referred to their own internal complaints procedure.

A Community Trigger was instigated at the proposal of TVBC and Police following complaints received from one resident. The complainant declined to request a CT but this process was considered best practice to review the joint actions taken in considering the complaint. The review found that all actions agreed by the agencies had been taken and that there was no new evidence of the issue continuing, and subject to further evidence, no further action was proposed.

Domestic Homicide Review: The DHR (known by the pseudonym 'Hodges') was submitted to the Home Offices Quality Assurance Panel for review. This was held in October 2019 and noted -

"The QA Panel noted that this is an honest and transparent review, with an excellent breadth of information and discussion in the Findings section. The Recommendations and Action plan have been appropriately completed and early learning has been instigated that has resulted in the implementation of new safeguarding reporting forms. The QA Panel specifically commended the report on a thorough combined chronology.

There were some aspects of the report which the Home Office felt needed a further revision. On completion of these changes the DHR should be resubmitted to the Home Office for review."

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The DHR panel chair has subsequently reviewed these comment and proposed a response to the Home Office which is currently being considered by the CSP member of the Test Valley Partnership. In the interim, 12 of the 13 recommendations have been implemented by partners, and an update on the final action is pending.

In June 2019 a further DHR referral (known by the pseudonym 'Nicole') was received from Police. A panel was formed with the same Home Office approved independent Chair and author. The panel has completed its review, the report and draft action plan of which is shortly to be submitted to the CSP partners for approval.

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