

Safer Communities and Health

Recommended Structural Improvements		
COMMENT	BY WHO	RESPONSE
Some priorities may be better placed in the Planning, Transport and Health chapter, since they relate to / repeat earlier priorities.	REDOG	Agreed – design and Road Traffic Accident priorities to be moved to Planning, Transport & Health chapter.
Support mechanisms need to be relevant to the group being targeted.	Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007	Action plan will address as appropriate.
Chapter should be renamed “Safer, Stronger Communities and Health”	Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007	Agreed.
Many crossovers between the priorities.	Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007	Noted.
The Strategy needs to tackle perceptions at regional and at local level through community partnerships	Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007	Action plan will need to consider.

Recommended Content Improvements

Anti-Social behaviour section needs to be strengthened, e.g. “high incidences of ASB impact very negatively on individuals’ health and well-being, particularly mental health. Provision of community wardens and PCSOs who remove the high temperatures from neighbour disputes and ASB cases are useful solutions and there are lots of good practice examples through the region. Wardens are often cross cutting, for example in Walsall, wardens work on falls prevention assessments.”

Accord Housing Association Limited

Noted for final document.

Worth including action to raise awareness of actual prevalence of crime.

REDOG

Noted for action plan.

Tackle “image stereo-types, e.g. “Birmingham is dangerous” society’s view of some play as anti-social needs to be tackled as well as the issue of some play being seen as high risk.

Equality & Diversity Partnership

Covered in planning, transport and health – but needs to recognise play.

Would like to see a reference to the role

Friends of the Earth, West Midlands

Noted but too detailed.

and value of allotments and growing food locally to where people live.		
Need a clear and strong reference to the Public Sector Agreement targets for crime and drugs.	GOWM – Drugs Team	Agreed more focus on drugs and alcohol.
Tackling issues such as the causes of crime or broader social cohesion and community safety are starting to fall outside the remit of a strategy focused on the health of the region into broader areas of public policy.	Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust	Noted. RHP to re-address priorities.
Deaths on the road are not looked at as a workplace issue, p52 misses the point that the economy needs vehicles and transport and that transport needs workers who are fit, trained, alert and capable.	TUC, Midlands	Noted.
Would like to see a much stronger emphasis within this section prioritising hate crime, and racial harassment specifically.	West Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership (Dave Newall – Policy Officer)	To be included in text of chapter.
Drug related crime and deaths per capita need to be identified in rural areas.	Rural Workshop on Health and Health Services	Noted to be addressed in action plan.

Links needed to mental health and well-being	Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007	Mental health to be promoted throughout document.
National offender management services (e.g. Probation Service) missing from the section and should be threaded through. Underlying thread should be on prevention rather than cure and breaking cycles.	Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007	Noted and will try to address in action plan.
There is a need to be more specific regarding how we use faith and belief to address local issues e.g. using local assets only under “voluntary and community” is not explicit enough.	Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007	Noted.
There should be something on vice (prostitution) – linked to safety and health and impacts on local community	Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007	Noted and will try to address in action plan.

Priority	Suggested Improvements	Rank Awarded	Action Currently Being Taken
<p>1. Reduce crime rates by supporting local delivery and ensure there is a focus on tackling the underlying determinants.</p>	<p>Further Clarification needed on the form of 'local delivery'. (Birmingham City Council)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>Clarification will be in action plan but this will focus on regional action. Will change to one around drugs and alcohol.</p> </div>	<p>1= NHS West Midlands – The Board 1 Staffordshire County Council (Members) 3 Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	<p>The Council has a very strong arrangements in place with regards to Community Safety, for example BASBU (Birmingham Anti-Social Behaviour Unit) is one of the Governments Trailblazers for its Together Campaign to address the causes and implications of Anti-Social Behaviour.</p> <p>In addition the Council has made a commitment in its Council Plan 2007+ (page 43). Strategic Outcome: Stay safe – living in clean, green and safe communities. Priority action – Work with our partners, especially the police, to continue to reduce crime and tackle anti-social behaviour (named BCC lead = Portfolio Holder for Local Services and Community Safety).</p>

			<p>(Birmingham City Council)</p> <p>In partnership with others, we will focus on the working in partnership to reduce crime rates by addressing the underlying determinants and particularly the reduction of domestic abuse. (Staffordshire County Council (Members))</p> <p>Arts Council England, West Midlands does significant work with Young People at Risk of Offending and recognise participation in the arts as a key tool to engaging priority groups of young people. (Arts Council England, West Midlands)</p>
<p>2. Proactively strengthen and develop partnerships at regional, sub-regional and local levels to promote community safety.</p>	<p>Link to Local Area Agreements and Local Strategic Partnership objectives. (Equality & Diversity Partnership)</p> <p>Regional, sub-regional and</p>	<p>1 CSIP</p> <p>1 Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	<p>In addition to the Council's commitments with the Birmingham Community Safety Partnership, it has also highlighted the following outcomes in The Council Plan 2007+ (pages 23 and 29) which align with the above</p>

	<p>local partnerships are key elements of the Delivery System for Sport providing a two-way flow of information and resources and the achievement of mutually agreed outcomes. The place of Sport and activity in supporting community safety is encouraged. (Sport England)</p> <div data-bbox="621 678 1031 930" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px 0;"> <p>Noted</p> </div>	<p>priority. Strategic Outcome: make a contribution – valuing one another and playing an active part in the community. Priority action – Deliver the “Respect” agenda. Strategic Outcome: Stay safe – living in clean, green and safe communities. Priority action – Lead continued sophisticated partnership working with West Midlands Police (named BCC lead = Leader of the Council; Portfolio Holder for Local Services and Community</p> <p>(Birmingham City Council)</p> <p>PAN-WM will continue to promote examples of best practice in the utilisation of physical activity interventions to improve community safety e.g. diversionary activities. (PAN-WM)</p> <p>Sport England directly support sub-regional infrastructure</p>
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			through the delivery system for sport to strengthen partnership (Sport England)
3. Reduce the number of road traffic accidents.	<p>Suggestions wanted on how such a priority could be met. (Birmingham City Council)</p> <p>Cross reference with Planning, Transport and Health Priority 5. Take into account Road Safety e.g. Home Zone and children i.e. unless road safety is tackled the proposals to get people to be more active etc. will not happen. Address fear of crime linked to access, e.g. public transport, cycling, walking as these facilities will only be used if seen as safe. (Equality & Diversity Partnership)</p> <p>Rephrase “accident” to collision. (Herefordshire Partnership)</p> <p>Encouragement of road safety based on driver education</p>	<p>5 CSIP</p> <p>1= NHS West Midlands – The Board</p> <p>5= Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	<p>This priority aligns with existing Council priorities as follows: The Council Plan 2007+ (pages 14 and 49)</p> <p>Strategic Outcome: Stay safe – living in clean, green and safe communities.</p> <p>Priority action – work with partners to improve transport safety.</p> <p>Aim – We will continue to reduce deaths, injuries and losses from accidents in the city focusing on those at greatest risk.</p> <p>Aim – Improved safety and mobility for vulnerable and disabled people within the highway.</p> <p>In addition, the Council states in the Birmingham Unitary Development Plan 2005, 6.43b) that, “locations that are particularly hazardous for cyclists will be</p>

	<p>should occur across the region, linked to a local evidence base, and support should be given to regional Safer Roads Partnerships. (RAF)</p> <p>Should state that more pressure was needed on the Police to reduce speed limits e.g. in some areas from 30 to 20 miles per hour. (Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Priority to be moved to planning, transport and health chapter.</p> </div>		<p>investigated and remedial measures taken where appropriate.”</p> <p>(Birmingham City Council)</p> <p>PAN-WM will work with travel colleagues to promote safe active transport and increase knowledge of issues ‘critical mass’ and cycling safety – more people cycling leads to drivers understanding how to deal with cyclists and therefore less accidents but this is not always the message published in the media. (PAN-WM)</p>
<p>4. Promote partnership work to address domestic abuse both in the planning and delivery of services.</p>	<p>Link to Priority 5 (Equality & Diversity Partnership), (Sustainability West Midlands Policy Group)</p>	<p>1= Birmingham City Council 4 CSIP 1= NHS West Midlands – The Board</p>	<p>This priority aligns with a commitment in The Council Plan 2007+ (page 14) Strategic Outcome: Stay safe – living in clean, green and safe</p>

	<p>Shouldn't all abuse be addressed including domestic (Arts Council England, West Midlands)</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Suggest priority is reworded and the word domestic is deleted.</p> </div>	<p>4 Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	<p>communities. Priority action – safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults in Birmingham. (Birmingham City Council)</p> <p>Geese Theatre engage with perpetrators of domestic abuse. www.geese.co.uk Worcestershire County Council has an Arts Education Officer within the domestic violence unit, working on Arts projects with young people affected by domestic violence. The project is known as Shenanigans. (Arts Council England, West Midlands)</p>
<p>5. Promote social justice, social cohesion and opportunity for all; including a shared understanding of behaviours that are acceptable and unacceptable.</p>	<p>Include reference to specific groups with special needs, e.g. older people and fear of crime. Community involvement is essential in these issues, commitment to a bottom-up process, resulting in</p>	<p>2 CSIP 2 Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	

	<p>(Equality & Diversity Partnership)</p> <p>May be difficult to achieve in practise (Malvern Hills District Council)</p> <p>This could be strengthened to address issues of hate crime and racial harassment. (West Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership – Dave Newall, Policy Officer)</p> <p>Include community consultation on these issues, leading to a commitment to a bottom-up process, resulting in community ownership (Sustainability West Midlands Policy Group)</p> <div data-bbox="625 1065 1031 1312" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"><p>RHP agreed for the priority to be taken out but the impact on social cohesion to be included in the text.</p></div>		
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<p>6. Promote good urban design to provide an environment which discourages crime and anti-social behaviour.</p>	<p>Delete “urban” (Equality & Diversity Partnership), (Sustainability West Midlands Policy Group)</p> <p>Change to “Promote good urban design to provide an environment which discourages crime, anti-social behaviour and substance abuse including drugs and alcohol.” (Herefordshire Partnership)</p> <p>This is a rural issue too, though requirements may be different. Some rural areas have an unrecognised problem with drugs, and an ongoing problem with alcohol. This may be aggravated by the lack of facilities for young people in rural areas. (WMWFF)</p> <p>Quite negative. Anti-social</p>	<p>1= Birmingham City Council 3 CSIP 1 Natural England 5= Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007</p>	<p>The Council is already has a team dedicated to Designing out Crime; in April 2007 a conference was held with local Architects, Designers, Planners, Housing Associations and Developers to explore ways to deliver safe and secure communities in Birmingham (for more information please contact Marcia Wynter on 0121 303 3501).</p> <p>(Birmingham City Council)</p> <p>Natural England will continue to review and provide recommendations on future planning development both regionally and locally. We will also be advocating the adoption of the GIP methodology and continue to be a statutory consultee on Strategic Environmental</p>

	<p>behaviour arises because e.g. cannot use space for ball games. Positive language needed to encourage good practice and good behaviour. (Report from Consultation Event held on 21 May 2007)</p> <p>RHP agreed to move to the planning, transport and health section.</p>		<p>Assessments undertaken for major development programmes. (Natural England)</p> <p>PAN-WM will work to champion the messages of "Active design". (PAN-WM)</p>
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Additional Priorities Recommended

Need a priority which explicitly refers to drug and alcohol harm, not just in relation to road accidents.

GOWM – Drugs Team

Priority to be included

Alcohol and drugs section (substance misuse) should be strengthened so it becomes a priority action.

Report from Consultation Event held on
21 May 2007

Section to be strengthened

Additional Work Being Carried Out

1. Working with young people's community agencies to reduce stigma/encourage help seeking for vulnerable young people/reduction of self harm.
2. Education for Schools and YP around substances and mental health (managing personal risk) – being aware of help seeking agencies if you have problems.
3. Liaising with wider counties especially key local businesses in the counties to promote awareness of risks of substance misuse for YP.

Care Services Improvement Partnership West Midlands

Noted.

The priorities in this section link with the following priorities of NHS West Midlands:-

- All age all cause mortality
- Development of Health Trainers
- Development of the Expert Patient Programme.
- Promotion of Life Check
- increasing the numbers of clients under drugs treatment

NHS West Midlands – The Board

Noted.

and targets for harm reduction.'

These are articulated in the strategic framework of NHS West Midlands.

NHS West Midlands does not have any specific targets around alcohol misuse. However, we work to achieve the aims of the National Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy for England, and encourage PCTs to develop and implement programmes for the early identification and treatment of problem drinking. NHS West Midlands does have targets to reduce all age all cause mortality and we recognise from the analysis that has already been done that we have a culture within the West Midlands of binge drinking and an excess of alcohol related deaths.

Other Programmes, which are relevant, are the Expert Patient Programme and the development of Health Trainers as both of these could be used to ensure people are supported in taking drugs and alcohol.

NHS West Midlands supports the work of

the National Treatment Agency to ensure that Drug and Alcohol Action teams meet and exceed their targets for increasing the numbers of clients under treatment and for harm reduction.

NHS West Midlands would want to see through the implementation of the strategy the promotion of Life Check. Life Check is a self-assessment tool, which can be used in all locations and in particular workplaces. The tool seeks information on individual demographics, physique, lifestyles, medical history, family medical history and will provide tailored feedback and recommendations for change. In addition Life check will provide information about services available to provide support. This will also promote sensible drinking. Similarly, the Expert Patient Programme will promote sensible drinking.

The focus of activity for NHS West Midlands will be about:-

Recommending to local commissioners the following interventions:-

- Alcohol advice and information
- Targeted screening and assessment for those drinking in excess of DH guidelines on sensible drinking and for those who may need alcohol treatment
- Provision of simple brief interventions for hazardous and harmful drinkers
- Referral of those requiring more than simple brief interventions for specialist alcohol treatment
- Partnership or shared care with specialised alcohol treatment services e.g. to provide specific alcohol treatment interventions within the context of their generic services

Elected Members have undertaken scrutiny reviews in relation to reducing crime and promoting community safety. The Authority, together with partner organisations, has

Staffordshire Moorlands Council
(Health Scrutiny Panel)

Noted

<p>also addressed the issue of domestic violence in relation to delivery of services. Together with partner organisations, the Authority is also keen to ensure that road traffic accidents are reduced across the District.</p>		
<p>Accommodation for ex-offenders – people with drug / alcohol issues. Support to sustain tenancies and address issues including impact on the community.</p>	<p>Adullam Homes Housing Association Ltd</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>The Health Protection Agency is involved in monitoring sexually transmitted blood borne virus infection and reducing the rates in the population. This requires community engagement and working with communities.</p>	<p>Health Protection Agency</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>Support local community projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hospice ➤ Local Housing Association ➤ Annual children’s event ➤ Carers programme (Business in the Community) <p>Developing Blithfield recreational site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Angling ➤ Sailing ➤ Walks 	<p>South Staffordshire Water</p>	<p>Noted</p>

➤ Community group involvement		
As programme lead for delivering race equality in mental health care programme – to develop and highlight cross cutting themes i.e. pathways to care for AC/BME communities which has a cost imperative – long-term in BME communities access, experience, outcome and recovery of mental health problems.	CSIP	Noted
Developing a well-being project to build people’s self-esteem, tackling low level mental ill health and encouraging volunteering in the community.	Karis Neighbour Scheme	Noted
Promote social justice, social cohesion...(co-ran a sub-regional conference on “Cohesion through Faith” at Stoke on Trent in November 2006)	West Midlands Faith Forum	Noted

No signups specifically to this chapter, for overall signups see General Report