

# Local Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour Spotlight Review Terms of Reference

Scoping paper by the Scrutiny Officer to set the terms of reference for a proposed scrutiny review

Chair	Councillor Ian Morrell
Membership	Councillors Simon Coles, Dave Durdan, Habib Farbahi, Roger Habgood
Executive Members	Councillor Jane Warmington
Background	At the October 2 <sup>nd</sup> 2018 Meeting of Full Council a motion was brought forward by Councillor Farbahi around tackling crime and anti-social behaviour in The Deane. Two motions were passed, one to set up Task and Finish Group to look into the issues and possible solutions and another motion to “engage with all the businesses in the town centre to fully understand their challenges and see if contributions via the radio link systems can help and support their businesses. Taunton Deane and the new authority have to come together with the business community to ensure a safe environment for them to operate so that they can survive these difficult times.”
Scope	<p><i>‘To make the Taunton Town Centre and the broader Taunton urban area be safer from crime or ASB or the perception of such to encourage increased footfall and tackle crime.’</i></p> <p>A review of the current state of play with our Anti-Social Behaviour approach is considered timely. Talking and engaging to the key stakeholders in the area would provide a broad view of the key issues.</p> <p>Investigate the causes of some of these issues around ASB/Drug Use, impact on retailers, hospitals, shoppers and the public.</p> <p>In the Police and Crime Commissioner’s annual report it was recorded Business Crime in all regions of Avon and Somerset fell by 5% in 2017 except for Somerset West (which covers Taunton Deane, West Somerset and Sedgemoor) where it rose by 5% a difference of 10% to the rest of the service area which includes Bristol, Bath, and Weston-Super-Mare.</p> <p>In May 2017, Sedgemoor District Council launched their own business crime reduction system to replace Somerset Businesses Against Crime (SBAC). There have been some reported issues with the technology CCTV and Radios and a lack of co-ordination and intelligence. Visible Police resources are scarce thanks to recent cuts; the CCTV system in the town centre has had reported issues and find out more about the equipment in use.</p> <p>Who can we link with practically externally to make a difference in this area, and also what can we do to help as an authority?</p>
Possible lines of enquiry	<p>Four Key Areas identified under broad headings;</p> <p><b>1. <u>Statistics, Perception, Impact. (RH)</u></b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There is a key issue between the reality of the crime borne out by the statistics and the perception – what is the evidence? Is crime not being reported? Link between footfall fall and feeling of safety in Town Centre? Can this be evidenced?</li> </ul> <p><b>2. <u>CCTV Contract and Technology. (HF)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The CCTV Contract provider scope was last reviewed in 2011 and there could be further questions and a review into technology, equipment, operators, and value for money.</li> <li>- Compare workload and KPI's for TDBC against SDC and SSDC figures. Are the operations covering the TDBC area as per contract? Does the price increase year on year and on what basis?</li> <li>- Maintenance Contract – figures for TDBC comparative to other users? Alternative costings to ensure best value.</li> <li>- Verify SDC arrest statistics against those of police and radio link users. Dip sample claimed arrests to see if CCTV played a proactive role in that.</li> <li>- Questions around lone working and unauthorised personnel in control room whilst in operation.</li> </ul> <p><b>3. <u>Rough Sleepers (SC)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Feedback on Town Centre Wardens Pilot – was it effective project and did it have an impact?</li> <li>- More Feedback on Night Café and solutions to the problems associated with Rough Sleepers and Aggressive begging/ASB.</li> <li>- Review complaints coming into TDBC about ASB?</li> </ul> <p><b>4. <u>General Crime/ ASB Issues (IM/DD)</u></b></p>
<p>Possible witnesses (operational and policy)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chief Inspector L Simpson / Inspector A Pritchard</li> <li>• Community Safety Partnership Leads</li> <li>• Police &amp; Crime Commissioner/Police &amp; Crime Panel Chair</li> <li>• Office of the Chief Constable/ Chief Superintendent</li> <li>• SCC Cabinet Member</li> <li>• Relevant Officers at SCC (Chief Exec / L. Macready)</li> <li>• Representatives of Town Centre Businesses (Chamber of Commerce and Town Centre Retailers Assoc.) (C. Barrell &amp; K. Lowe)</li> <li>• Andy Sharman</li> <li>• Sedgemoor District Council and Monitoring Centre – B. Donbavand</li> <li>• Weston-Super-Mare BID (Town Centre Manager)</li> <li>• Relevant TDBC Officers (S Weetch, C Stuart, L Redston, H Stewart, K Papps, J Davis, J Hassett, S Lewis et al).</li> <li>• Billy Dawber / Street Wardens – 3D Security</li> <li>• Judge David Ticehurst</li> </ul>

## Appendix B

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chief Executive of the NHS Trust and SWAST</li><li>• A+E Staff/ Consultants (H. Peters/ Dr. Mann OBE)</li><li>• Public Health (T. Grant)</li><li>• Street Pastors (A. Prior-Sankey).</li><li>• ARC/Open Door/Mind</li><li>• Other CCTV Operators</li></ul> <p>All witnesses/organisations to be questioned/ represented will be the most senior or appropriate person, with a timeslot apportioned on the day to ensure the best use of their time.</p>
Timescale	<p>Councillors to go for a 'Site Visit' in the evening with Streetwise/ Street Pastors in the build-up to see the work ongoing.</p> <p>Hold a Pre-meeting in the week before Spotlight Review meeting XX Feb 2019.</p> <p>Report to Committee March 2019</p>