



# SaferMK Strategy 2018-2021



## Foreword by Hannah O'Neill – SaferMK Chair

'Community Safety Partnerships' were created by the Crime and Disorder Act of 1998, they set in statute the need for partners to work together to deliver safer communities. Twenty years later we have seen community safety go from strength to strength with all partners recognising the importance of the partnership.

This couldn't be truer in Milton Keynes; we have had, and continue to have an incredibly strong partnership, a partnership where everyone round the table see's the need to work closely on areas such as domestic abuse, burglary and water safety.

That isn't to say we aren't without our challenges, the financial and resource pressures we have all faced over the last few years have left us in a very different place than when we first came together All partners have had to change the way they work internally and externally and that has obviously had a knock on affect as we start to see crime and disorder rise, both locally and nationally.

Another challenge is, without a doubt, the need to identify and tackle new and emerging threats and crime types such as modern day slavery, cyber-crime and gang development.

This strategy meets those challenges head on, it sets out how we work together in these difficult times and how we start to resolve the community safety issues facing our communities, it won't be easy but I feel we have the best possible partners around the table, all determined and devoted to deliver a safe Milton Keynes.

Overall I am honoured to be the Chair of a partnership presenting this strategy, it shows commitment and strength and will set us on the path to the next twenty years.'

**Councillor Hannah O'Neill**  
**Chair, SaferMK Partnership**

## 1. Introduction

The SaferMK Partnership is the statutory Community Safety Partnership for the City of Milton Keynes and ensures that agencies are brought together to formulate and implement a strategy in tackling local crime and community safety issues in the area.

No single agency can deliver on the complexities of keeping communities and businesses safe therefore a partnership action plan must be in place to deliver the strategy.

This strategy builds on the SaferMK Partnerships Strategic Assessment which identifies the crime and community safety issues that in partnership, we will focus on and address. The objectives have been identified through considering the findings of an assessment of crime and anti-social behaviour trends. It will be refreshed annually in line with our ever changing priorities and the needs of the communities and businesses in Milton Keynes.

This strategy also has regard for the strategic priorities set out in the Police and Crime Commissioners (PCC) Police and Crime Plan for Thames Valley 2017-2021.

<https://www.thamesvalley-pcc.gov.uk/police-and-crime-plan/>

## 2. Statutory Duties and Responsibilities

The SaferMK partnership has a number of statutory Community Safety duties:

### **Strategic Assessment**

The purpose of the strategic assessment (SA) is to inform the partners of SaferMK about the scale and scope of crime, disorder, anti-social behaviour and community safety issues within Milton Keynes. The SA assists in formulating the Objectives that the partners will focus on.

### **Domestic Homicide Reviews**

Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) were established on a statutory basis under Section 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004. The requirements for undertaking a DHR have been transferred to Community Safety Partnerships in which the 'victim was normally resident' or where 'the victim was last known to have frequented'. Thames Valley Police will inform SaferMK in writing of the incident. Overall responsibility for establishing a review rests with the chair of the SaferMK partnership.

### **Community Trigger reviews**

A victim of anti-social behaviour can insist on a multi-agency review of their case if they have met the locally set criteria.

### **Reducing reoffending**

SaferMK will work in conjunction with partners to assist in managing barriers and challenges individuals face. The SaferMK Partnership will have sight of the annual Youth Offending Service Plan in order to assist in meeting this duty.

### **Tackling drug and alcohol misuse**

The SaferMK Partnership will work in conjunction with partners and demonstrate its involvement in the strategy formulated by Public Health Team.

### 3. Purpose and Scope of the Strategy

- Milton Keynes Council has produced a comprehensive strategic assessment in collaboration with all principal partners. The key findings are summarised under section 4 below. The purpose of the assessment is to: understand the trends and associated risks over time relating to Crime and Disorder; to set clear priorities; to develop intelligence-led activity, and deploy resources effectively.
- The wider community safety partnership has contributed to the priority setting and has agreed the overall Vision and proposed themes to focus on. The strategy serves as a commitment by community safety partners to work together to maximise the impact on safety in the agreed areas of priority. The priorities are geared towards the type of crime and offending behaviour which most affects residents, businesses and visitors to the area, that present the greatest risk of serious harm and which local community safety partners are able to influence.
- Partners have agreed that the most effective approach is through the development of **Community Cohesion** that improves how stakeholders work in partnership with Communities in tackling **Neighbourhood Crimes** of concern and in protecting those most **Vulnerable** to crime and exploitation.
- Partners have also agreed the need to focus on **Early Intervention** and **Prevention to Reduce the Risk** to individuals, communities and localities.
- Partners have undertaken to identify gaps and opportunities on an ongoing basis and to reduce duplication of effort, using their influence to tackle the drivers of crime and safeguard vulnerable residents.
- There are many specialist teams and strategies which overlap with this agenda and an important part of the CSP's work is to remain aware of these and to co-ordinate activity.

### 4. Crime in Milton Keynes

- The strategic assessment brings together a broad range of information about crime and disorder in Milton Keynes. It provides an opportunity for the partnership to enrich its understanding of the key issues, the connections between these and the underlying causes. The aim is to enable the partnership to target its activities effectively.
- The strategic assessment only scratches the surface. To fully understand crime and disorder, analysis should be ongoing with effective information sharing between partners.
- Crime rates in Milton Keynes have broadly tracked National trends and recent overall crime rate increases have matched these trends.
- The data below shows that co-ordinated work is required to reduce Neighbourhood Crimes such as Violence, Burglary and Anti-Social Behaviour. The data also recognises emerging risks such as Criminal Exploitation of the Vulnerable.
- The strategic assessment is updated annually and emerging issues will be subject of continual review

## Key Points Arising from Milton Keynes Strategic Assessment 2018-19

### Neighbourhood Crime

- Overall crime had risen 9% in 2017 compared to 2016. In order of the number of incidents:
- Theft had risen 12%
- Violence had risen 8%
- Criminal Damage and Arson had decreased by 2%
- Burglary had risen 22%

The key broad locations for crime were Central Milton Keynes and Bletchley respectively, whilst the focal points for violence were, Campbell Park South/Woughton, Central Bletchley/Fenny Stratford, Stony Stratford/ Wolverton and CMK/ Campbell Park.

- ASB levels reported to the police had increased 19.7%, whilst ASB levels reported to MKC had fallen by 1.6%, but with a significant increase in fly-tipping of 17.9%
- Fire Service incidents had increased by 11% of which actual fire related incidents accounted for a 7.6% increase
- Road Traffic Collisions continue to show a downward trend over 5 years, with a 23% reduction in accidents and 28% reduction in casualties

### High Harm and Vulnerability

The areas of Harm and Vulnerability reflect emerging areas of risk that we learn about through greater awareness as well as subjects that pose significant risk of serious harm.

- **Domestic Abuse** levels remain relatively static at over 4000 incidents per annum. However academic research continues to predict under-reporting. It is therefore recognised as an area requiring development against a background of two ongoing Domestic Homicide Reviews and data from the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences showing below average numbers of cases being heard and below expected LGBT representation
- **Criminal Exploitation and Gangs.** Recent local research has identified the development of a number of gangs that are engaged in varied levels of criminal activity including violence and drugs offending, but whose individuals also present other demands on partners such as reports of being missing.
- **Modern Slavery** is a serious crime that encompasses labour exploitation, domestic servitude, sexual and criminal exploitation. It is a cross cutting theme and Milton Keynes recognises it's presentation in scenarios such that vary from the 'cuckooing' of vulnerable adults to 'car wash' operations.
- **FGM (Female Genital Mutilation), Honour based violence and Forced Marriage** are crimes reflecting the Coercion and Control of women. Limited locally available information suggests a need to conduct a Needs Analysis. However it is known of 44 FGM screening cases reviewed, 33 are confirmed cases.
- **Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)** is a cross cutting crime that may manifest itself under a number of 'titles' including Modern Day Slavery, Criminal Exploitation within Gangs, Sexual exploitation and as a crime of Coercion and Control within our school age population.
- **Hate Crime** has seen an increase of 66.8% from 223 to 372 in comparing 2016 to 2017.
- **Extremism** continues to be managed via a local Prevent Board and local Channel Panel. It is noted the threat from extremism presents in a number of guises that includes far right ideology and Islamic Radicalisation
- **Rough Sleeping.** Whilst Milton Keynes Council's position is that there is no reason to sleep rough, with assistance available, MK continues to have a strong presence of Rough Sleepers that were recorded at 161 in March 18 compared to 100 in March 17.

## 5. Vision

The vision and priorities have been guided by the findings of the strategic assessment reviewing Performance for the calendar year 2017 along with a SaferMK workshop held on the 19<sup>th</sup> April.

Our vision is: ***“Sustaining safe and resilient communities together”***

We will approach this by prioritising our approach to Neighbourhood Crimes and those affecting our most Vulnerable communities and Individuals:

### **Understanding Local Crime and Disorder**

- Examining trends and intelligence, engaging with communities and individuals including professionals to understand the local causes and risks of crime

### **Community Cohesion**

- Developing Community Cohesion through Engagement, mutual Education and Empowerment, securing community perspective as to the causes and solutions for crime in order to build Community Resilience and sustainable solutions

### **Early Intervention**

- Using available information to take early action to mitigate the risk of individuals committing crime or falling victim to crime
- Active identification and risk mitigation of/for the Vulnerable and active Protection through judicious use of legislation as well as through innovative partnership and community ideas.

### **Prevention**

- Using an array of options to raise awareness, to implement protective measures in respect of Neighbourhoods and Individuals that will mitigate the risk of Crime

## 6. Priorities

Vulnerable Communities and Individuals (V)	
V1	Ensure effective partnership response to the tackling of domestic abuse including: service provision, working in partnership and tackling perpetrators
V2	Prevent and minimise gang-related activity
V3	Deliver the Prevent strategy in Milton Keynes
V4	Develop an understanding of how FGM, Honour Based Violence and Forced Marriage affects Milton Keynes
V5	Develop an awareness regarding Modern Day Slavery in MK against a background of Thames Valley and national developments, that will inform tactical interventions
Neighbourhoods (N)	
N1	Prevention and reduction of violence (excluding Domestic Abuse)
N2	Prevention and reduction of ASB that includes reports to TVP and MKC. Also includes environmental crime
N3	Prevention and reduction of acquisitive crime (to include burglary, vehicle crime and theft)
Community Cohesion (C)	
C1	Develop cohesive and resilient communities that are confident in the local partnerships
C2	Develop and implement a strategy to minimise the impact of hate crime on Milton Keynes communities and maximise the opportunity of deterring and capturing those who would commit such acts

### VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES AND INDIVIDUALS

Outcome V1 : Ensure effective partnership response to the tackling of Domestic Abuse including: Service Provision, Working in Partnership and Tackling Perpetrators	
<p><b>Why this is a priority:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is acknowledged that Domestic Abuse (DA) remains under-reported</li> <li>• DA contributes significantly to the overall volume of reported violent crime</li> <li>• The levels of high risk cases heard at MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) are uncharacteristically low when compared to national expectations</li> <li>• Milton Keynes has two ongoing Domestic Homicide Reviews</li> <li>• Academic research indicates the significant cost to stakeholders of DA</li> <li>• Children and young people growing up in families where DA takes place present and are at risk from a variety of health and other issues when growing up</li> </ul> <p><b>What we know about Milton Keynes</b></p>	<p><b>What we plan to do:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct a comprehensive Needs Assessment (6 months)</li> <li>• Engage with professionals and service users to understand in greater detail the challenges and needs in respect of DA that will ensure early identification, intervention and prevention opportunities (6months)</li> <li>• Develop a 3 year Strategy and Plan to respond to DA in line with the current National approach to DA within the Violence Against Women and Girls agenda. In particular focus on Prevention, Partnership Working and Perpetrators</li> <li>• Ensuring Partnership Professionals are aware of the signs of DA and able to respond effectively including completing risk assessments, refer to Marac and signpost victims</li> <li>• Review of MARAC processes and the pathways for victims to receive support</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On average a victim will suffer 35 assaults before calling police</li> <li>• High risk referral rates into MARAC are 50% below expected levels</li> <li>• LGBT rates at MARAC are at 0.5% compared to an expected level of 5%</li> </ul>	<p>(12months)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report MARAC performance on a quarterly basis to the SaferMK Business Management Group and SaferMK</li> </ul> <p>Outcomes will include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Needs assessment and DA strategy</li> <li>• Increased number of high risk cases that are subject to MARAC</li> <li>• Comprehensive governance and approach across the partnership to DA</li> </ul>
---	---

**Outcome V2: Prevent and minimise gang-related activity**

<p><b>Why this is a priority:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is recognised that there are gangs in Milton Keynes engaged in criminal activity.</li> <li>• Individuals associated with gangs include those at risk of criminal exploitation or pose a risk of criminally exploiting others.</li> <li>• Gang members are involved in criminal activity that involves violence, carriage of weapons, drugs use and supply</li> <li>• The proliferation of addresses being ‘cuckooed’ relates to the drugs market and county lines. These addresses are invariably occupied by some of our most vulnerable adults</li> </ul> <p><b>What we know about Milton Keynes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In addition to the above, Milton Keynes suffers from an increase in violence, of which 25% is attributed to the age group 11 to 26</li> <li>• Gangs in Milton Keynes are varied in nature, including those involved in organised criminal activity as well as those that are self-defined by locality</li> </ul>	<p><b>What we plan to do:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct a Needs Assessment</li> <li>• In partnership, to identify best practice and assist in the development of screening tools to ensure identification and route to early intervention and support for those at risk of gang involvement</li> <li>• Review the processes that manage those at risk of and criminal exploitation</li> <li>• Identify individuals currently and at future risk of gang involvement and to develop partnership interventions and the offer of support</li> <li>• Develop a universal awareness programme across Milton Keynes</li> <li>• Recognising the link between drugs supply, gangs and cuckooing of vulnerable adults, SaferMK will work with the Milton Keynes Safeguarding Board and take positive steps of intervention to safeguard the vulnerable</li> <li>• Report progress on a quarterly basis to the SaferMK Business Management Group and SaferMK</li> </ul> <p>Outcomes will include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction in re-offending by gang affected individuals</li> <li>• Reduction in youth violence</li> <li>• A comprehensive understanding of the gang picture for Milton Keynes (by end of year 1)</li> <li>• The implementation of a systemised approach to gang membership (by end of year 1)</li> </ul>
--	--



### Outcome V3: Deliver the Prevent Strategy in Milton Keynes

#### Why this is a priority:

- Milton Keynes recognises the risk to community cohesion posed by those with extreme views or those susceptible to extreme views
- International and national events indicate the need for continued vigilance, awareness and early intervention

#### What we plan to do:

- Develop an annual Prevent delivery plan with key stakeholders
- Deliver Prevent related projects aimed at addressing both local and national Prevent related priorities
- Ensure that key staff and relevant statutory and other agency staff receive Working to Raise Awareness of Prevent Training (WRAP)
- Ensure that the management of individuals at risk and in need of support is considered an integrated with the approach to other 'People' management approaches such as Integrated Offender Management, Children's and Families localities meetings.
- Linked to the above is to review the processes that manage those at risk of radicalisation and criminal exploitation
- Report progress on a quarterly basis to the SaferMK Business Management Group and SaferMK

#### Outcomes will include

- Annual programme of activity monitored through the Prevent board to SaferMK

### Outcome V4: Develop an understanding of how FGM, Honour Based Violence and Forced Marriage effects Milton Keynes

#### Why this is a priority:

- Milton Keynes recognises the risk and harm to individuals who suffer from these crimes.
- Milton Keynes recognises the opportunity to gain a further insight into its understanding and approach to these crimes within the wider Violence Against Women and Girls Agenda

#### What we plan to do:

- With partners and communities to conduct a needs assessment
- With partners to develop an awareness raising campaign linking to the various calendar events nationally and internationally
- Report progress on a quarterly basis to the SaferMK Business Management Group and SaferMK

#### Outcomes will include

- Annual programme of activity
- Raised awareness
- Comprehensive needs assessment

**Outcome V5: Develop an awareness regarding Modern Day Slavery in Milton Keynes against a background of Thames Valley and national developments, that will inform tactical interventions**

**Why this is a priority:**

- Milton Keynes recognises the risk and harm to individuals who suffer from these crimes.
- Milton Keynes recognises the opportunity to gain a further insight into its understanding and approach to these crimes within the wider Violence Against Women and Girls agenda
- National Statistics indicate: Sexual exploitation (42%), Labour exploitation (37%), Forced criminality (12%), Domestic servitude (7%), Other (2%)

**What we know about Milton Keynes**

- 11 males, 2 females as victims 2017
- Age range 16-27
- Population growth in Milton Keynes and potential for transient populations associated with the significant development taking place

**What we plan to do:**

- Form an initial Task and Finish group to scope understanding
- Ensure national representation and Thames Valley Police lead officer at Task and Finish group
- With partners and communities to conduct a needs assessment
- With partners to develop an awareness raising campaign linking to the various calendar events nationally and internationally
- Improve the intelligence picture on victims and suspects from the Western Balkans - (This includes Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Macedonia).
- Increase the number of MS1/Duty to Notify forms submitted to the Home Office
- Report progress on a quarterly basis to the SaferMK Business Management Group and SaferMK

**Outcomes will include**

- Annual programme of activity
- Raised awareness
- Comprehensive needs assessment
- Increase in referrals and intelligence reports

## NEIGHBOURHOODS

### Outcome N1: Prevention and reduction of violence (excluding Domestic Abuse)

#### Why this is a priority:

- Milton Keynes along with other parts of the UK has seen an increase in the levels of reported violence
- The proportion of violence attributed to young people between the ages of 11 and 26 (check) is 25%

#### What we know about Milton Keynes

- At the end of the calendar year violence had increased by 8%
- As of 16<sup>th</sup> May 2018, the first 6 weeks were showing a 59% increase in violence
- Bletchley suffers a disproportionately high level of violence
- There are a number of locations that are repeat venues, including the prison, licensed premises, but none that alone account for the overall volume that exceeds.
- There are also a number of high demand individuals
- The proportion of violence attributed to young people between the ages of 11 and 25 is 25%

#### What we plan to do:

- Complete a violence profile to describe problematic locations and themes to focus intervention and prevention activity
- Identify individuals who merit partnership interventions as offenders or victims
- Identify locations and consider overall preventative approach based upon VOLT (Victim, Offender, Location and Time)
- Re-institute the JATAC meeting for Milton Keynes and to conduct a 'Partnership Problem Solving Session' to develop a bespoke plan in respect of VOLT (Victim, Offender, Location and Time)
- JATAC to plan a calendar of anti-violence activity based upon seasonal trends such as Halloween and New Year's Eve
- Report progress on a quarterly basis to the SaferMK Business Management Group and SaferMK

#### Outcomes will include

- Problem profile
- Tactical interventions versus individuals, focusing on intervention and prevention in the first instance
- Tactical interventions versus locations, focusing on prevention

**Outcome N2: Prevention and reduction of ASB that includes reports to TVP and MKC. Also includes environmental crime**

**Why this is a priority:**

- Tackling ASB is a recognised factor in driving the confidence of communities in the authorities
- Research over many years has linked environmental conditions and crime as being a driver for more serious crime

**What we know about Milton Keynes**

- ASB reported to the police has increased
- ASB crime of fly-tipping has increased
- Milton Keynes ASB team are currently tackling a high volume of investigations regarding ASB associated with the illicit supply of drugs via cuckooing of the vulnerable

**What we plan to do:**

- Complete a violence profile to describe problematic locations and themes to focus intervention and prevention activity
- Identify individuals who merit partnership interventions as offenders or victims
- Identify locations and consider overall preventative approach based upon VOLT (Victim, Offender, Location and Time)
- Re-institute the JATAC meeting for Milton Keynes and to conduct a 'Partnership Problem Solving Session' to develop a bespoke plan in respect VOLT (Victim, Offender, Location and Time)
- Conduct a 'Partnership Problem Solving Session' to inform and develop the tactical response to the issue of cuckooing. This is to be reported across SaferMK, Safeguarding and Health and Wellbeing Boards owing to the links regarding vulnerable People
- Report progress on a quarterly basis to the SaferMK Business Management Group and SaferMK

**Outcomes will include**

- Problem profile for ASB
- Tactical interventions versus individuals, focusing on intervention and prevention in the first instance
- Tactical interventions versus locations, focusing on prevention

**Outcome N3: Prevention and reduction of Acquisitive Crime (to include Burglary, Vehicle Crime and Theft)**

**Why this is a priority:**

- Acquisitive crime regularly features as an area of concern through police consultative forums

**What we know about Milton Keynes**

- Acquisitive crime levels have risen

**What we plan to do:**

- Re-institute the JATAC meeting for Milton Keynes and to conduct a 'Partnership Problem Solving Session' to develop a bespoke plan in respect VOLT (Victim, Offender, Location and Time)
- Develop and expand the Neighbourhood Watch Schemes
- Involve communities in solutions
- Expand the use of Smartwater

**Outcomes will include**

- Over three years reverse the increase in acquisitive crime

## COMMUNITY COHESION

### Outcome C1: Develop cohesive and resilient communities that are confident in the local partnerships

#### Why this is a priority:

- Some communities still feel marginalised
- In Milton Keynes we want the experience of living in Milton Keynes, whatever a person's background, live, work, learn and socialise together, based on shared rights, responsibilities and opportunities
- Some voices are too seldom heard

#### What we know about Milton Keynes

- People are the key to developing strong, integrated communities.
- Milton Keynes is very diverse one of the fastest growing areas is our BAMER communities (Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic and Refugees)
- Over 200 plus different languages are spoken in Milton Keynes

#### What we plan to do:

- *“Work with” and not “Do To” communities*
- *“Try, be bold and unafraid”*
- Develop a communications Strategy and plan that will include a calendar of events that builds upon (a) local, national and international events such as Black History Month and (b) local crime trends (c) other opportunities
- Engage with communities in their communities
- Hold one community safety public engagement event per year
- Develop and carry out surveys of our communities to determine public opinion
- Work with our local communities with partners to raise their profile
- Review how SaferMK communicates, collaborates, and coordinates with its' communities
- Maximise opportunities of existing mechanisms of engagement such as the Police Independent Advisory Group
- Develop new opportunities for engagement
- Engage with communities in respect of existing and emerging crime and disorder issues
- Pilot a localised neighbourhood approach to community cohesion and tackling neighbourhood crimes and vulnerability

#### Outcomes will include

- Community days of action, involving locals, and community organisations
- Increased visibility and engagement with communities across Milton Keynes

**Outcome C2: Develop and implement a strategy to minimise the impact of hate crime on Milton Keynes communities and maximise the opportunity of deterring and capturing those who would commit such acts**

**Why this is a priority:**

- There has been an increase in hate crime/hate incidents in 2017 of 66.8%
- Incidents are under reported and mechanisms need to be strengthened and publicized

**What we know about Milton Keynes**

- Hate crime/hate incidents span across the community. There is a high volume of race hate that may be linked to issues around Brexit
- Based on communications with young people they are both victims and perpetrators of hate crime, with varying degrees of support and intervention

**What we plan to do:**

- Conduct a needs assessment
- Stimulate new thinking, build new partnerships and test innovative approaches so we can build our understanding of what works.
- A fortnight of action with partners to coincide with National Hate Crime Awareness week (14<sup>th</sup>- 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct)
- Engage with the community to gain an understanding of what they see as the most persistent challenges and how we enable and support communities to help themselves
- Establishment of a Community Risk (CR) MARAC

**Outcomes will include**

- Strengthening local partnerships to identify innovative practices to address hate crime and promote greater reporting
- Cases where vulnerable people are identified will be looked on a case by case basis and worked with in a multi-disciplinary framework to provide the best possible outcome
- Working with schools to raise the profile of hate crime reporting and working with perpetrators



# SaferMK Strategy 2018-2021



**SaferMK**

Available in audio, large print, Braille and other languages

Civic Offices  
1 Saxon Gate East  
Central Milton Keynes  
MK9 3EJ