

**11<sup>th</sup> September 2026**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **Present: Board members and Support officers:**

#### **In person:**

|        |                               |                                                     |
|--------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| (RG)   | Cllr Robert Gisbourne (Chair) | Warwickshire County Council                         |
| (LL)   | Leon Livermore                | Warwickshire County Council – Community Safety      |
| (KW)   | Katie Whitehouse              | Warwickshire County Council – Community Safety      |
| (MS)   | Martyn Stephens               | Warwickshire County Council – Community Safety      |
| (NC)   | Nick Coleman                  | Warwickshire County Council – Community Safety      |
| (HN)   | Hema Nolan                    | Warwickshire County Council – Community Safety      |
| (NS)   | Nicola Stocker (Minutes)      | Warwickshire County Council – Business Support      |
| (BSu)  | Becky Sumner                  | Warwickshire County Council – Children & Families   |
| (JC)   | Jane Coates                   | Warwickshire County Council – Public Health         |
| (JB)   | Jemma Bull                    | Warwickshire County Council – Business Intelligence |
| (ZW-D) | Zoe Waters-Day                | Warwickshire County Council – Business Intelligence |
| (NH)   | Natalie Hamilton              | Warwickshire Probation Service                      |
| (DG)   | CC David Gardner              | Warwickshire Police                                 |
| (PS)   | PCC Philip Seccombe           | Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner         |
| (NG)   | Cllr Natalie Gist             | Stratford District Council                          |
| (SS)   | Sam Slemensek                 | Stratford District Council                          |
| (JS)   | Cllr Jim Sinnott              | Warwick District Council                            |
| (MC)   | Michelle Clarke               | Warwick District Council                            |
| (CH)   | Chris Hedworth                | North Warwickshire Borough Council                  |

#### **Online:**

|       |                      |                                                        |
|-------|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| (EU)  | Elisabeth Uggerloese | Warwickshire Association of Local Councils             |
| (CCa) | Colin Cartwright     | Warwickshire Neighbourhood Watch                       |
| (JH)  | Junaid Hussain       | EQulP - Equality and Inclusion Partnership             |
| (PM)  | Paul Morley          | Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service                   |
| (CC)  | Caroline Cooke       | Warwickshire County Council – Children's Safeguarding  |
| (FC)  | Fay Cannon           | Warwickshire County Council – Road Safety              |
| (VW)  | Vicky Woodfield      | Warwickshire County Council – Safeguarding Communities |
| (SA)  | San Aslam            | Warwickshire County Council – Business Intelligence    |
| (JT)  | Julie Taylor         | North Warwickshire Borough Council                     |

#### **Apologies:**

|      |                    |                                             |
|------|--------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| (ED) | Emma Daniell       | Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner |
| (RR) | Rebecca Richardson | Victim Support                              |

### **Section 1 – Meeting administration**

#### **1. Welcome, introductions and apologies**

Cllr Gisbourne welcomed all to the meeting, apologies were noted and introductions were made.

#### **2. Minutes, actions and matters arising from the meeting held on 23rd June 2026**

The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed for accuracy and approved. Completed actions are noted at the end of the minutes. New actions are noted below.

| New Actions – 11 <sup>th</sup> September 2026                                                            |                        |                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Theme                                                                                                    | Responsible officer(s) | Action                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Community Safety Assurance Group highlight report: focus on risk</b><br><u>Hate crime</u>             | Leon Livermore         | To prepare a report providing an analysis of the emerging hate crime risk and any associated recommendations for the March SWPB meeting. |
| <b>Police and Crime Commissioner services and funding update</b><br><u>CSP funding</u>                   | All CSPs               | To submit all funding requests to the OPCC ahead of the 18th December deadline.                                                          |
| <b>Police and Crime Commissioner services and funding update</b><br><u>Prisoner early release scheme</u> | Natalie Hamilton       | To provide a summary of the types of offences associated with prisoners due for release to WCC Business Intelligence (Jemma Bull).       |

## **Section 2 – Items for Discussion**

### **3. Public sector landscape changes, implications for community safety working and future decisions required**

- LL presented the report and thanked all partners who contributed to its development.
- The government decision to pause Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) was announced after the meeting papers were circulated, meaning much of the report content was outdated. LL proposed new recommendations to note the fluctuating landscape, retain the partner forum established to share information and bring further papers to the Board as more is known around LGR and Policing reform. These were agreed.
- The importance of partners continuing to work together in the community safety space was reiterated.
- Comments received from NG on the report were acknowledged and can be considered at the appropriate time in the revised LGR process.
- DG stated that Police Reform is still on the table and expressed his agreement in keeping the conversations going.
- PS added that the Lord Hogan-Howe review of Policing and Policing Reform Bill are yet to be published but PCCs are still due to be abolished in 2028. The future remains unclear, but at present it is business as usual with much value in working collaboratively.

### **4. Community Safety Assurance Group highlight report: focus on risk**

- NH introduced the report which had a focus on risk for the first time.
- The overarching risks assessed as being outside of tolerance relate to the restructure of the ICB, the impact of early prison release arrangements and partner agency commitment and capacity to deliver the priorities of the Board in a time of unprecedented levels of change.

- NH updated the Board that the number of prisoners due for release in Warwickshire during tranches 1 and 2 of the early release scheme is now known. This risk can now be managed as the picture becomes clearer.
- LL provided an update on the risk raised by the Hate Crime Partnership. It was noted that both local and national policy decisions are likely to have an impact on hate crime and community cohesion in Warwickshire.
- LL also advised that headline data shows an increase in hate crime, and further work is being undertaken to understand the underlying causes and associated risks.
- The Board was asked to acknowledge the identified risks, with a report providing detailed analysis of the emerging hate crime risk and any associated recommendations to be prepared for the March SWPB meeting.
- The Board agreed that the new approach to risk provides suitable assurance around how these issues are being managed by the partnership.
- The report recommendations were supported.

### **Section 3 – Additional papers for approval:**

#### **5. Young Futures Panels: Implementation update and future funding and resource requirements**

- BSu provided an update on the Young Futures Panel pilot, which has been operating successfully in the south of the county. Given the positive outcomes achieved to date, support from the Board was requested to expand the model into the north.
- The Panel Co-ordinator has played a key role in its successful establishment and operation. This post is currently funded only until March 2027.
- The panel focuses on providing timely intervention for children and young people, ensuring support is delivered at the earliest appropriate opportunity. This approach has demonstrated positive results.
- Work is also underway to further involve third-sector organisations, enabling improved information sharing, partnership working, and awareness across agencies.
- A significant benefit of the partnership approach has been the ability to access statutory systems and share relevant information, helping to ensure partners are informed and able to respond effectively.
- MC stated that the triaging and sharing of information has worked really well.
- Cllr Gisbourne expressed his support for the introduction of a panel in the north. He noted that close collaboration with the Borough Councils would be essential and would need to take into account local elections next May.
- LL echoed how successful the pilot has been and thanked all involved. LL added the key issue is around funding and a commitment from partners is needed to make this work as the co-ordination role is key.
- BSu emphasised that partners are really keen to have cross county coverage for the panels.
- The report recommendations were supported and discussions around the establishment of a panel for the north of the county will now commence.

**Section 4 – Additional papers for information:**  
**Comments / Questions by exception only**

**6. Community Cohesion Subgroup update**

- LL introduced the report and highlighted the progress being made to deliver the actions within the action plan.
- The report to the next Board meeting will include consideration of the future of the community cohesion group and the outcome of an exercise being undertaken to map community safety activity being delivered in schools.
- JH added that engagement and keeping communities on board are key to the success of the cohesion group.
- The report recommendation was supported.

**7. Police and Crime Commissioner services and funding update**

- PS introduced the report and updated that services are currently being recommissioned to cover the period beyond the abolition of PCCs and ensure there is some resilience for the longer term.
- CSPs were reminded to submit all funding requests as soon as possible and ahead of the 18th December deadline.
- The OPCC Grant Funding process for 2027/28 is due to be launched on 13<sup>th</sup> October.
- The initial £100k from the Ministry of Justice for victims impacted by the early prisoner release scheme has been increased to £195k over a three-year period.
- The OPCC Chief Executive has moved on and Claire Morris is currently the Acting Chief Executive.
- A discussion took place about the early prisoner release scheme. NH clarified the national process. Numbers are likely to be known approximately two months ahead of each tranche of releases and updates will continue to be shared through the appropriate partner forums.
- DG noted that, given the relatively small number of releases in Warwickshire, there should be an opportunity to closely monitor reoffending rates and assess any emerging impacts.
- Cllr Gisbourne enquired whether any additional monitoring arrangements would be put in place. It was confirmed that existing monitoring processes would be followed, with further consideration given on a case-by-case basis where required.
- CH asked whether any additional resources were being provided to support the increased demand arising from the releases. NH confirmed that no additional funding or resources had been allocated. CH noted that this is likely to place further pressure on existing services.
- DG highlighted that individuals who disengage from support systems and go on to commit lower-level offences are likely to generate additional demand and pressure across partner agencies.
- JB requested an overview of the types of offences associated with prisoners due for release. NH confirmed that a summary could be provided to the Business Intelligence analysts.

## **8. DARDR and MARAC funding 2027-28**

- NC and JC introduced the report and explained the rationale for the requested increases to funding contributions in 2027/28. The overall proposed increase is approximately 41%.
- A further paper will be brought to the Board in December seeking formal approval of the proposed funding arrangements, subject to confirmation through budget-setting processes.
- In relation to DARDR reviews, NC explained that funding levels have remained unchanged for the past three years. During this period, work has been undertaken to review and improve processes, with the service drawing on a ring-fenced reserve to support delivery. The proposed increase in funding is intended to safeguard the reserve while also addressing increased staffing, business support and review costs.
- JC provided an update on MARAC funding requirements, noting that these relate to an increase in staffing for the service provider. There has been a substantial increase in referral numbers and the existing staffing structure is unable to accommodate the current volume, resulting in a requirement for an additional full-time member of staff.
- DG commented that he was supportive in principle of the Police contribution, but this remains subject to approval through budget setting processes.
- Cllr Gisbourne expressed his support for the recommendation in principle, noting that the request was well justified.
- The report recommendations were agreed, with relevant partners to support the commencement of the budget request process within their agencies as required.

## **9. SWPB Communications Strategy: implementation update**

- KW introduced the report and sought the Board's continued support for the work of the communications subgroup, highlighting the importance of ongoing joint working, effective communication, and strong links with other partnership initiatives to maximise impact and ensure consistent and timely messaging.
- The report recommendation was supported.

## **10. Any Other Business**

None raised.

## **11. Date of next meeting**

8th December 2026, 14:00 - Committee Room 2, Shire Hall, Warwick.

Cllr Gisbourne thanked all for attending and concluded the meeting.

## COMPLETED ACTIONS

| Actions - 23 <sup>rd</sup> June 2026                                                                              |                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Theme                                                                                                             | Responsible officer(s) | Action                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Freedom from violence and abuse:</b><br>Presentation                                                           | Nicola Stocker         | Copy of the presentation to be circulated with the minutes.<br><b>UPDATE: 11/09/26</b> – Complete.<br><b>DISCHARGED</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Freedom from violence and abuse:</b><br>Resources (posters/flyers)                                             | Priya Tek-Kalsi        | To share appropriate posters and flyers with high schools and colleges.<br><b>UPDATE: 11/09/26</b> – KW has followed up with Priya who confirmed that the high schools have posters, and these are sent out to colleges as and when requested. A reminder that resources are available to all partners through the Talk2Someone website.<br><b>DISCHARGED</b> |
| <b>Prevent Annual Assurance Report</b><br>Synergy Training Sessions in July and October 2026                      | Nicola Stocker         | Details of these training sessions to be circulated with the minutes.<br><b>UPDATE: 11/09/26</b> – Complete.<br><b>DISCHARGED</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Countywide funded posts and co-commissioned services</b><br>Public sector reform and implications for the SWPB | Katie Whitehouse       | To present as an agenda item to the SWPB meeting in September for a more detailed discussion.<br><b>UPDATE: 11/09/26</b> – Complete.<br><b>DISCHARGED</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                     |