



Salisbury Women's Safety Initiative

This joint project is a partnership between Soroptimist International of Salisbury (SI Salisbury) and Safer and Supportive Salisbury (SaSS). The Community Conference held at The Chapel on Thursday 18 November 2021 attracted some 80 local people. An action plan was developed as a result of three participative workshops which were well attended. A Steering Group to oversee the plan has been set up and Terms of Reference agreed. The Steering Group is meeting monthly and two meetings have been held to date. This report gives Councillors an update on progress on the action plan.

The Steering Group consists of:

- Eleanor Evans, SI Salisbury
- Linda Baker, SaSS
- Liz Batten, SI Salisbury
- Cllr Victoria Charleston, Salisbury City Council
- Annie Child, Clerk, Salisbury City Council
- Dan Collins, Business Manager, Salisbury BID
- Carolyn Deverall-Hart/Maria Milton, Police and Crime Commissioner's Office
- Karlene Jammeh, CEM, Wiltshire Council
- Amanda Newbery/Natalie Down, Pubwatch
- Supt Sarah Robbins, Wiltshire Police Lead for VAWG/Gemma Vinton DCI Wiltshire Police
- Anne Trevett, Chair, SaSS

Other members might join meetings of the Steering Group to report back from time to time

The Steering Group will:

- Provide oversight and co-ordination of the plan
- Provide support and guidance to projects, when required
- Maintain an overview of each of the project plans
- Monitor progress against timescales
- Help to signpost/provide introductions for resources/funding opportunities for project leaders
- Provide scrutiny for funding bids and ensure bids are supported by partners
- Escalate and provide support for project leaders in the event of any problems or issues
- Communicate progress effectively to external audiences

From the Action Plan:

1. Salisbury Safety Information Hub – Leads: Carolyn Deverall-Hart and Sarah Robbins

The aim of this is to set up a resource to provide information on local crisis/support services relating to VAWG. A range of options including using existing apps/websites are being investigated.

Progress: Working Group set up and met twice, including comms team. Options being explored to develop an information hub, looking at existing resources; funding within existing budgets and existing staff resources. The plan is it will be included in the new comms plan for the new financial year. Discussing Sussex PCC solution <https://www.safespacesussex.org.uk/>

2(a). Zero Tolerance City – promotion Lead: Karlene Jameeh

The aim is to create an ongoing publicity campaign on what is in place using existing channels where possible, potentially involving young people in delivery.

Progress: First draft of communications strategy developed for February SG meeting. The strategy will promote other parts of the plan as they progress.

2(b). Zero Tolerance City – training Lead: Dan Collins

The aim is to develop a training programme for employers and businesses. Training sessions available elsewhere in the UK are being explored.

Progress: Discussion with WAVE (Welfare & Vulnerability Engagement) on what can be delivered. Looking at 'train the trainers' with local trainer in Salisbury. Bystander training and links with Ask for Angela for NTE venues.

3. Schools' Forum – Leads: Jenny Price, Godolphin School and Jane Ebel SASS and SI Salisbury

The aim is to create a Schools' Forum to enable local school pupils to explore issues which are important to them. It will be pupil led where possible and could include a Salisbury Schools' Charter.

Progress: Date fixed for Schools Forum – Thursday 23 June. Programme being developed very much student led. It will include other local schools and Trafalgar and Burgate too.

4. Awareness in workplace and sports clubs – Lead: Eleanor Evans

The aim is to pilot awareness training with small number of employers and sports clubs. The approach will be to challenge attitudes and raise awareness of signs of abuse.

Progress: Salisbury District Hospital and James Hay both started White Ribbon pilot projects. City Council looking at White Ribbon accreditation. BID encouraging local businesses. Salisbury FC running all women's game at the RayMac on Sunday 10 April with White Ribbon promotion.

5. Taxi Accreditation Scheme – Leads: Linda Baker and Anne Trevett

The aim is to provide training for taxi drivers and a code of conduct. The scheme will identify accredited drivers and create complaint process

Progress: Previous Home Office funding bid being reworked and sources of funding researched. Meeting held with Cllr Hocking and Manager of Value Cars to discuss training.

6. Improvements to CCTV - Leads: Richard Goodman, CCTV Manager and Cllr Victoria Charleston

The aim is to review effectiveness of current service and identify gaps. Opportunities are being explored for future improvements; equipment, staff and volunteers

Progress: Review of CCTV coverage carried out alongside crime statistics. Specific coverage issues and time of day/night identified. Discussion underway with PCC, who is reviewing across the county. Victoria to take the issue of funding sources forward.

7. Streetlights – Lead: Liz Batten

An audit will be carried out across the city to identify broken lights and gaps in coverage, working alongside SCC group looking at underpass safety.

Progress: The Salisbury city map has been sub divided into four sectors including underpasses and tunnels. The audits will be carried out over 4 evenings starting at 7 pm. Inspector Tina Osborne has agreed to provide a PCSO presence to accompany each of the night audits. Cllrs Sample and Hocking will accompany the audits. City Councillors have been made aware.

8. SAVI Accreditation for venues – Lead Dan Collins

The aim is to explore SAVI - Licensing Security and Vulnerability Initiative – not for profit scheme. The scheme helps venues assess their safety and security arrangements and make improvements.

Progress: SAVI very keen to work with us. Dan liaising with new Pubwatch committee.

9. SARC for Salisbury - Leads: Carolyn Deverall-Hart and Sarah Robbins

The Conference asked - Sexual Assault Referral Centre – should Salisbury have its own? The approach is to agree the best approach with police/PCC. Raise awareness of facility.

Progress: Reciprocal arrangements are in place with neighbouring police forces. The Swindon SARC is a Centre of Excellence. There is also an outreach service. Tendering process underway for new financial year. Once new contracts are in place, suggest an awareness raising activity.

10. Women’s Safety at Night Charter - Leads: Carolyn Deverall-Hart and Sarah Robbins

The aim is to take a county wide approach to establish a Women’s Safety at Night Charter. London Women’s Safety at Night Charter good model to follow.

Progress: A Working Group to develop a Women’s Safety at Night Charter has been set up. One meeting has been held so far and more are planned. The group is making presentations to the Community Safety Partnerships. There will be a toolkit to sit behind the Charter, a webpage and there will be community engagement.

Key Dates for Diaries

- Mental Health Showcase at the Guildhall Tuesday 5 April
- Women’s Football Match at the RayMac Sunday 10 April
- Women’s Safety Event at the Guildhall Saturday 30 April
- Schools Forum at the Blackledge Theatre, Godolphin School Thursday 23 June

Thank you for the opportunity to report back. I am happy to take any questions you might have.

Liz Batten, Steering Group Member