

AGENDA

Safer Sefton Together

Thursday 8th September, 2022

10.00 am, Remote Meeting - Microsoft Teams

MEMBERSHIP:

Councillor: Trish Hardy, Sonya Kelly, Robinson, Armitage, Jenny Currie, Simon Burnett, Forshaw, Neil Frackelton, Grainger, Superintendent Dawn McNally, Karen Rooney, Sexton, Hollis, Andrea Watts and Nigel Bellamy

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Declarations of Interest

Members are requested at a meeting where a disclosable pecuniary interest or personal interest arises, which is not already included in their Register of Members' Interests, to declare any interests that relate to an item on the agenda.

Where a Member discloses a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, he/she must withdraw from the meeting room, including from the public gallery, during the whole consideration of any item of business in which he/she has an interest, except where he/she is permitted to remain as a result of a grant of a dispensation.

Where a Member discloses a personal interest he/she must seek advice from the Monitoring Officer or staff member representing the Monitoring Officer to determine whether the Member should withdraw from the meeting room, including from the public gallery, during the whole consideration of any item of business in which he/she has an interest or whether the Member can remain in the meeting or remain in the meeting and vote on the relevant decision.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on

4. DHR10 report

Mary Mason and Monica Touhey the joint chairs of the DHR to report to SST providing an overview of the case and the key findings.

5. DHR Update

Simon Burnett/Steve Martlew

6. Prevent Update

Steve Martlew

7. Presentation of Sefton VAWG Statement / Strategy

Simon Burnett/Steve Martlew

8. Presentation of Community Safety Strategy / Plan

Report to follow.

9. Serious Violence Duty

Simon Burnett/Steve Martlew

10. Draft Victim Bill

Report on the Draft Bill published by the MOJ

11. Interdependencies Report

Report on the different boards and how they connect with each other.

12. Youth Justice Service Update

Report of Rosanna Stanley.

13. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 8 December 2022, commencing at 10:00 am.

COMMITTEE OFFICER:	Ian. Barton
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THIS SET OF MINUTES IS NOT SUBJECT TO "CALL-IN"

SAFER SEFTON TOGETHER

MEETING HELD AT BOOTLE TOWN HALL ON WEDNESDAY 22ND JUNE, 2022

PRESENT: Councillor Hardy (in the Chair)

Simon Burnett, Risthardh Hare, Kevin Hollis,
Superintendent Graeme Robson, Rosanna Stanley,
Chief Inspector Tracy Trubshaw, Chris White and
Steven Martlew.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted from Nigel Bellamy, Neil Frackleton, Siobhan Grainger, Kevin Sexton, Janette Maxwell and Andrea Watts.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of any disclosable pecuniary interests or personal interests were received.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 March 2022 be confirmed as a correct record.

4. DOMESTIC HOMICIDE REVIEW (DHRS) UPDATE

Members considered a report giving an update on the carrying out of Domestic Homicide Reviews.

It was reported that there were currently difficulties in attracting independent Chairs for the process and members discussed possibilities to attract and train chairs.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report be noted;
- (2) that a further report be submitted to the next meeting regarding the recruitment of independent chairs for reviews.

Actions:

- (1) *Discuss at LCR SD VAG - risk to lack of chairs*

Agenda Item 3

SAFER SEFTON TOGETHER- WEDNESDAY 22ND JUNE, 2022

- (2) *Need to request further funds from partners for DHR's*
- (3) *Share process with MFRS in relation to Retirees from the service*
- (4) *Check what the cost is to take part in the training - could the SST fund this.*

5. PREVENT LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS HEALTH CHECK

Steve Martlew gave an update on PREVENT. He indicated the need to develop a risk assessment process and action plan and reported on proposals for a situational risk assessment tool to be developed. It was hoped to develop this by way of a Prevent sub-group. It was anticipated that this would meet quarterly in advance of SST meetings in order that progress could be reported at the subsequent SST meeting.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the update be noted;
- (2) arrangements be put in place to establish the Prevent sub-group prior to the next meeting of this Partnership.

6. OFSTED REPORT ON LINKS WITH DOMESTIC ABUSE

Risthardh Hare reported on work with perpetrators involving a 42 week programme by SWACCA. These courses were lengthy by nature and had an effect on the resources Social Work Team.

Reference was made to funding being made available by the Home Office for Children affected by Domestic Violence and Violence against Women and Girls and it was suggested that a Sefton Bid could be developed to apply for some of this funding.

It was also reported that following comments by OfSTED it was proposed to develop a new approach in relation to safeguarding children exploited. It was envisaged that a one-stop shop approach could be developed bearing in mind the number of agencies who could be involved.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the report be noted;
- (2) a Sefton Bid in respect of Children affected by Domestic Violence and Violence against Women and Girls be developed and a report on progress be submitted to the next meeting; and
- (3) a report be submitted to the next meeting on the progress on the new approach in relation to safeguarding children exploited.

7. YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICE UPDATE

Ros Stanley presented a briefing paper on progress and achievements of Integrated Youth Services. The report set out details of performance against the following Youth Justice National Performance Indicators:

- Reoffending – children who commit an offence across the period of 1 year are then tracked for a full year. This causes a time lapse due to the nature of tracking. This data is captured from the Police National Computer;
- First Time Entrants – those children who enter the statutory cohort for the first time; and
- Custody – those sentenced to a custodial sentence within the secure estate.

The report also set out details regarding:

- Changes to Key Performance Indicators (KPI's);
- Youth Justice Service Funding Increase; and
- Legislative Changes – Policing, Crime, Sentencing and Court Act.

Arising from the discussion reference was made to community events or “Walkabouts” which had previously taken place involving various agencies and local Ward Councillors and it was suggested these could be reinstated

RESOLVED: That the briefing paper be noted.

8. SEFTON LOCAL PROFILE

Superintendent Robson gave an update around the Sefton Local profile, and referred to the annual assessment of serious and organised crime. There had been a reduction in gun crime which was now low. He also referred to “Cuckooing” and the Police actions to prevent this in conjunction with Housing Associations, Exploitation and Care homes (where children and young people were moved into Sefton from neighbouring areas)

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

9. COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY - STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT

It had been intended to have a Community Safety Strategy Planning workshop at the meeting however, this did not take place due to low attendance and there was a need for everyone to have a say in how the strategy was developed. A draft Strategy, Executive Summary and spreadsheet had been produced which was discussed and it was suggested that the Draft Strategy report and excel spreadsheet be circulated to the partnership members for comment on the report and to populate the spreadsheet with the services they offered within the proposed strategy themes.

Agenda Item 3

SAFER SEFTON TOGETHER- WEDNESDAY 22ND JUNE, 2022

RESOLVED: that

- (1) the Strategy report and excel spreadsheet be circulated to the partnership members for comment on the report and to populate the spreadsheet with the services they offered within the proposed strategy themes;
- (2) Members be requested to submit any comments on the report and complete that spreadsheet by Friday 8 July 2022; and
- (3) Following receipt of comments, a Draft Strategy be submitted to the next meeting on 8 September 2022.

10. UNAUTHORISED ENCAMPMENTS

Superintendent Robson gave an update on the PCSC act and reported on the police response which would be proportionate.

RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

11. PROJECT ADDER

Superintendent Robson reported on Funding which had been allocated to Areas within Merseyside under project Adder but this had not included Sefton. There was a second wave of funding which required the submission of bids to upscale services and it was suggested that a co-ordinated bid could be considered possibly involving the local drugs partnership.

RESOLVED that the possible submission of a bid be further explored.

12. PUBLIC CONSULTATION FOR THE SERIOUS VIOLENCE DUTY

Chris White reported that the public consultation of the draft statutory guidance on the Serious Violence Duty had gone live and open from 6 June 2022. It would be running for 6 weeks until 21 July 2022.

The Link to the consultation is:

[Serious Violence Duty - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/serious-violence-duty)

Members were encouraged to submit their views.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the next meeting be held on Thursday, 8 September 2022 at the Town Hall Bootle, commencing at 10.00 am.

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of the Local Government Act 1972.

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Briefing to: Safer Sefton Together Partnership

Briefing from: Head of Communities

Date: 8 September 2022

Subject: Prevent Update

Prepared By: Steve Martlew, Localities Service Manager

Purpose / Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide Safer Sefton Together (SST) members with an update on Prevent.

Recommendation That: SST members note the contents of the report.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Prevent is a statutory duty placed on Local Authorities via section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015. The duty to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism” rests with SST.

2. Prevent Sub-Group

- 2.1 At its meeting in June 2022 SST received a report updating members on the recent health check of the 10 Prevent Benchmarks carried out via their Regional Advisor. The health check provided some areas of strength and some areas for development which SST agreed would be managed by a sub-group led by Chris White – Locality Team Manager for Sefton Council. No volunteers have been forthcoming to form this important sub-group that will deliver the statutory responsibility on behalf of SST. Chris will be contacting the safeguarding leads from each of the SST partnership organisations to form the subgroup. Our Home Office Regional Advisor Claire Little will also attend this subgroup to provide advice and guidance.
- 2.2 One of the first tasks for the sub-group will be to review the Counter Terrorism Local Profile which was received on 17 August 2022. This information, combined with local knowledge and data will help the sub-group carry out an active risk assessment and create an action plan Sefton.

3. Prevent Benchmarks

- 3.1 The table below shows the 10 Prevent Benchmarks and the score Sefton received against each during the recent health check. A score of 3 represents a position where the duty is met, a score of 1-2 indicates that statutory responsibilities are not being met and a score of 4-5 signifies requirements are being exceeded. Sefton’s results were compared rigorously with other Local Authorities to provide consistency. Its important SST members are familiar with these benchmarks as SST is currently the only committee with governance oversight of the Prevent duty.
- 3.2 The Prevent Duty Toolkit published by the Home Office can be found here [prevent duty toolkit \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/prevent-duty-toolkit)

Agenda Item 6

	Benchmark	Score
1	Risk Assessment	1
2	Multi Agency Partnership Board	2
3	Prevent Partnership Plan	1
4	Referral Pathway	5
5	Channel Panel	5
6	Prevent problem-solving process	2
7	Training	2
8	Venue Hire and IT Policies	3
9	Engagement activity	3
10	Communications	2

4. Summary

- 4.1 SST holds the governance oversight of the Prevent duty on behalf of Sefton. The sub-group led by Chris White will deliver the majority of the work as directed by our recent health check. Our Home Office Regional Advisor will continue to provide support where required. The sub group will report back to each SST meeting and I suggest that Prevent becomes a standing item on the agenda.

Steve Martlew
Locality Service Manager
31/8/22

Report to: Safer Sefton Together

Date of Meeting: 8 September 2022

Report of: Simon Burnett Assistant Director Communities

Subject: Violence Against Women & Girls

Author: Steve Martlew Localities Service Manager

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Safer Sefton Together (SST) on the responses from partners in relation to their work in combatting Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and to develop several strategic priorities for action over the coming year (s).

2 Violence Against Women Girls

- 2.1 In July 2021 following the tragic death of Sarah Everard and others the government issued a strategy for tackling VAWG. This followed the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 which strengthened support for victims/survivors of DA and powers to bring perpetrators to justice.
- 2.2 In addition Emily Spurrell Merseyside Police & Crime Commissioner also made VAWG one of her key priorities and subsequently Merseyside Police developed a commitment to keeping women and girls safe in Merseyside
- 2.3 There is significant overlap with the work that is underway around Domestic Abuse (DA) and Sexual Violence (SV) and often the lines between the 2 subjects can become blurred. However its important that SST recognises that some VAWG doesn't fit within the Domestic Abuse definition but still needs addressing to keep women and girls safe.

3 Sefton Response

- 3.1 At its meeting of the 17 March 2022 SST considered reports from all partners around their work in tackling VAWG. The reports provided assurance that all partners are fully cognisant of VAWG and are working hard to combat it. As outlined in 2.3 many of the responses leaned towards partner responses to both DA & SV but many of the barriers to reducing VAWG were often outside of this remit and are as follows:

Agenda Item 7

3.2 Education

A very early intervention and prevention focussed solution suggest by several partners was a programme of education in partnership with schools:

- Education for Girls that violence towards them is not acceptable in any circumstance also covering issues such as consent and healthy relationships
- Education for Boys that VAWG is not acceptable in any circumstance also covering issues such as consent and healthy relationships
- Training for Teaching and support staff in spotting violence issues (sexual harassment, sexual violence and online sexual abuse) and delivering anti-misogyny training as well as such as consent and healthy relationships

3.3 Trauma Informed practice

All responses to VAWG should be victim-led and that further roll out of trauma informed training for front line practitioners and delivering intervention programmes such as ACES is critical.

3.4 Professional Curiosity

Several partners spoke of the low numbers of victims/survivors disclosing abuse or demonstrating disguised compliance. It is therefore that a culture of safe disclosure is created and frontline staff exercise robust professional curiosity where abuse is suspected.

3.5 Safe Routes Home

A key priority within the government strategy, the PCC's strategy and Merseyside Police action plan is to establish safe routes home from the night time economy. Suggestions around this subject are:

- Training for staff on public transport and taxi drivers to recognise signs of sexual harassment and violence
- Providing well-lit routes
- Providing an adequate and robust CCTV network

4. SST VAWG Statement

4.1 A suggested statement for SST around VAWG would be

“Safer Sefton Together is committed to ending Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and is determined to ensure that Sefton is a place where women and girls are safe and feel safe to pursue their lives free from fear and

harassment. We believe that with effective earlier intervention, joint working and a drive to challenge the culture and attitudes that give rise to all forms of abuse, we can make Sefton a safe place for women and girls to live, work and enjoy their leisure time."

- 4.2 If SST members agree to the above statement and priorities we can develop an action plan that will feed into the Community Safety Strategy action plan.

5. Summary

- 5.1 VAWG is an important part of the Community Safety Partnership Strategy and is at the core of the SST purpose. VAWG is also a key priority for government, the Merseyside PCC and Merseyside Police. The priorities have been developed following feedback from partners, in particular identified barriers to success.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 SST are asked to

- Agree to the priorities for a VAWG action plan
- Agree the VAWG statement

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Report to: Sefton Safer Together

Date of Meeting: 8 September 2022

Report of: Simon Burnett Assistant Director Communities

Subject: Serious Violence Duty

Author: Steve Martlew Localities Service Manager

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Sefton Safer Together (SST) on the Serious Violence Duty and the impact it will have on Council and Partners.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 SST notes the contents of the report.

3 Background

- 3.1 Following public consultation in July 2019, the Government announced that it would introduce legislation relating to a serious violence duty. This will ensure that relevant services work together to share information to target interventions, where possible through existing partnership structures, to prevent and reduce serious violence within their local communities. The Government also announced that it would amend the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to ensure that serious violence is an explicit priority for Community Safety Partnerships and by making sure they have a strategy in place to explicitly tackle serious violence.
- 3.2 Whilst the guidance does not specify a particular partnership to lead, given the categories classed as “Serious Violence” will be contained with the Community Safety Strategy, it makes sense that SST is the partnership lead for Sefton. This would be an ideal subject for a small sub-group with the relevant statutory organisations to take responsibility for.

Agenda Item 9

4 The Duty

4.1 The Duty requires partners to understand the causes and consequences of serious violence, focusing on prevention and early intervention. There is a requirement to focus on root causes relevant to the local area and produce a Strategic Needs Assessment with contributions from Partners. This assessment will support local areas to prepare and implement a Serious Violence Strategy, with the ambition to prevent and reduce violent crime through tangible action. The guidance offers case studies from partnerships that have already developed this area of work. Partners expected to form part of the strategic network include Police, Local Authorities, Fire Service, Health agencies, Youth Justice Services, Voluntary and Community Sector, Schools, and local Prisons.

4.2 Serious violence relates to homicide, domestic abuse, all violence against the person including gun and knife crime. Partners have the flexibility to include alcohol related crime, modern slavery and violence towards women and girls if this relevant to their area. In addition, partnerships need to focus on areas of criminality where threats are inherent, such as county lines and drug dealing territories.

5 Data Sharing

5.1 There is an expectation for partners to share data from a number of sources to develop a local picture. The Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022 enables permissive information sharing.

6 Timescale

6.1 Partnerships are required to consult with relevant agencies, including the local Violence Reduction Partnership, Voluntary and Community Sector and children and young people prior to publishing the strategy. Publication is required within one year from the date of the serious violence duty implementation which is expected early 2023. A further report will be brought once detailed guidance has been published.

Report to: Safer Sefton Together

Date of Meeting: 8 September 2022

Report of: Simon Burnett Assistant Director Communities

Subject: Draft Victims Bill

Author: Steve Martlew Localities Service Manager

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Safer Sefton Together (SST) on the Draft Victims Bill and the impact it will have on Council and Partners.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 SST notes the contents of the report.

3 Background

- 3.1 The purpose of this Bill is to improve the end-to-end support for victims of crime so that they get the support needed to cope and recover from the impact of crime and feel able to engage and remain engaged in the criminal justice system. Together the measures will amplify victims' voices in the criminal justice process, strengthen transparency and accountability of criminal justice agencies and improve support for victims.
- 3.2 In 2019/20, it was estimated that 6.6% of 10-15-year olds and around one in five adults (19.3%) in England and Wales were victims of crime. In 2019, the Conservative Party's manifesto committed to pass a Victims Law which would guarantee victims' rights and the level of support they can expect. In December 2021, the Government launched a public consultation "Delivering justice for victims: A consultation on improving victims' experiences of the justice system" to inform development of this law. This consulted broadly on how to improve what victims can expect from the criminal justice system and how to improve aspects of victim support services. The consultation ran for eight weeks and received over 600 responses. Its aim was to better understand the experiences of victims and harness expertise from

Agenda Item 10

frontline practitioners and experts to ensure that the Bill and accompanying measures improve support for victims throughout the criminal justice system.

3.3 The Government's response to the consultation set out the legislative and non-legislative measures planned to improve victims' experiences of the justice system. The Victims Bill will facilitate a more consolidated framework to better support victims through the following legislative measures:

- placing the overarching principles of the Victims' Code in primary legislation
- enhancing local oversight of delivery of the Victims' Code through better data collection and an enhanced role of Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs)
- introducing a duty on PCCs, local authorities and Integrated Care Boards to collaborate locally, to facilitate more holistic and better coordinated victim support services
- placing Independent Sexual Violence Advisors (ISVAs) and Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs) on a statutory footing by requiring persons who work with victims of criminal conduct, or any aspect of the criminal justice system to have regard to guidance about how to work with them.
- updating the role of the Victims' Commissioner, including a requirement for departments and agencies with a responsibility to meet the requirements under the Victims' Code to respond to relevant annual report recommendations
- bolstering national oversight through a requirement for regular joint thematic inspections on victims' experiences
- removing the need for a victim of crime to raise a complaint via an MP before it can be escalated to the PHSO

4 Next Steps

4.1 The Bill has completed its pre-legislative stages via the Justice Committee, and we are waiting for the Committee's final report and recommendations. We will bring further reports to SST once the Bill starts to progress through Parliament and any updates on the proposed duty.

Report to: Safer Sefton Together

Date of Meeting: 8 September 2022

Report of: Simon Burnett Assistant Director Communities

Subject: Strategic & Governance Interdependencies

Author: Steve Martlew Localities Service Manager

1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Safer Sefton Together (SST) on the strategic and governance interdependencies of the SST with other boards and strategies.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 SST notes the contents of the report and are asked to suggest any boards strategies that may exist which are not represented. Furthermore SST are asked to suggest ways we can strengthen the links within the structure to ensure strategic and governance oversight.

3 Background

- 3.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 placed a statutory requirement for each local authority area to form a Community Safety Partnership (CSP) tasked with reducing crime, fear of crime, anti-social behaviour, drug misuse and reoffending. The partnerships contain the statutory partners of:

- The Council
- Police
- Fire & Rescue Service
- National Probation Service
- Community Rehabilitation Companies (now part of NPS)
- CCGs (now Integrated Care Partnership)

CSPs are traditionally administered by Local Authority funded Community Safety Teams and over the years have taken on additional responsibilities as the

Agenda Item 11

environment has evolved. Other papers on this agenda demonstrate how the responsibilities for Seftons CSP have grown.

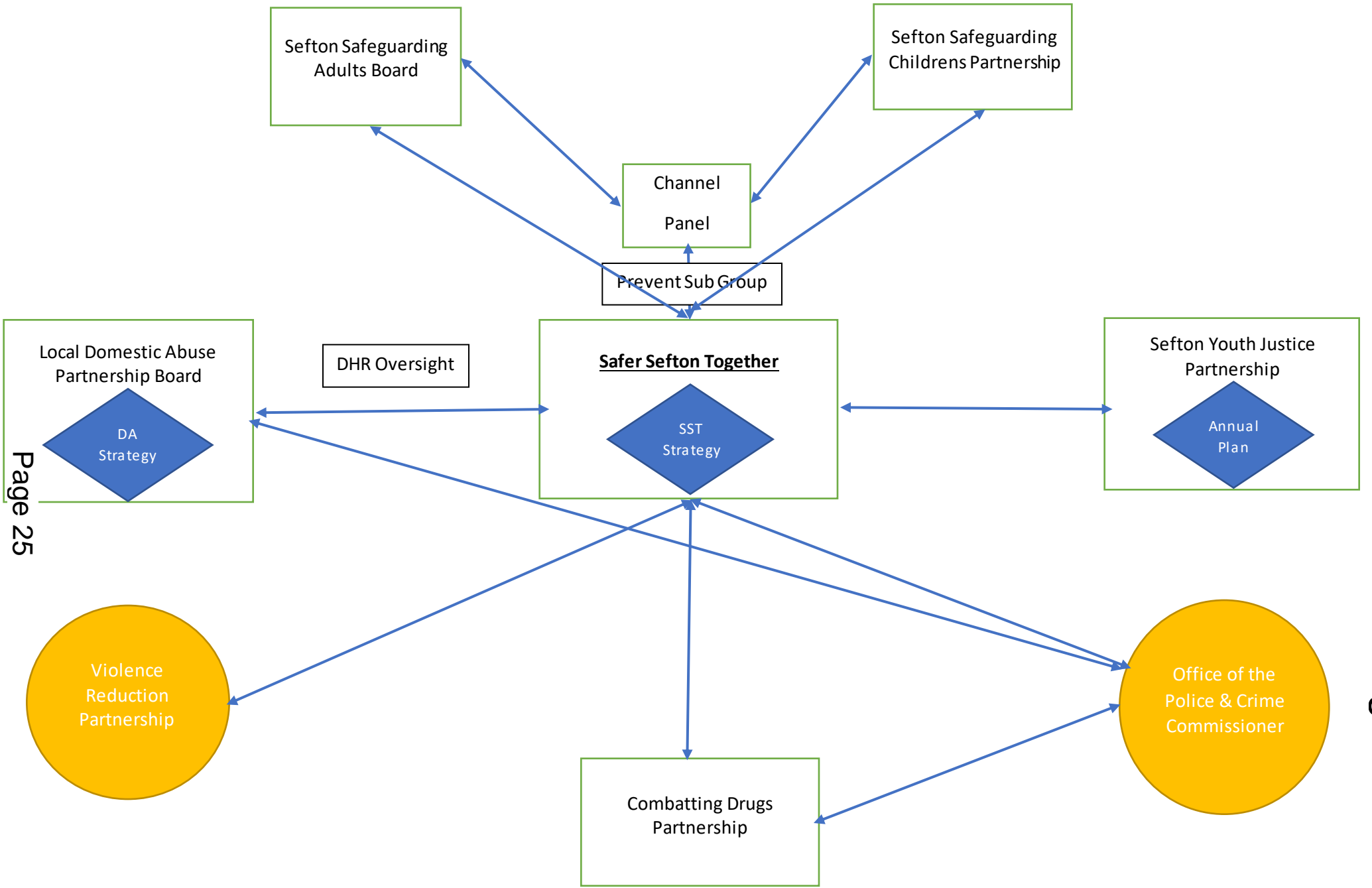
- 3.2 In Sefton the CSP is now known as Safer Sefton Together (SST) having previously been known as Sefton Safer Communities Partnership (SSCP). As the role of SST has grown over the years so has the interdependencies with other governance boards and other strategies. This paper aims to pictorially demonstrate where these interdependencies occur and how SST maintains governance and strategic oversight and influence. The diagram is at Appendix 1.

4 Strategic & Governance Oversight

- 4.1 The links and interdependencies with other governance boards and strategies is fairly complex and difficult to represent pictorially. There are overlaps across areas and often the links between the different governance structures are a person that attends both boards. This presents a certain amount of risk. The diagram doesn't take into account the wider LCR governance structure which would add another level of complexity.

5 Summary

- 5.1 SST has a significant level of complex interdependencies with other strategies and governance structures. Partners are asked to ensure all governance structures are accounted for and how best to strengthen the governance and strategic oversight.



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