

<b>COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SCRUTINY PANEL</b>	<b>Agenda Item No. 4</b>
<b>11 FEBRUARY 2009</b>	<b>Public Report</b>

## Report of the Director of Operations

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### SAFER PETERBOROUGH PARTNERSHIP PLAN

#### 1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to allow Community Development Scrutiny Panel to approve the Partnership Plan and recommend its approval to Cabinet. The Partnership Plan is a statutory responsibility.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Community Development Scrutiny Panel is asked to approve the Safer Peterborough Partnership Plan and recommend it to Cabinet for approval.

#### 3. LINKS TO CORPORATE PLAN, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

- 3.1 The Safer Peterborough Partnership is part of the Greater Peterborough Partnership. Many of the indicators within this plan are also held within the Local Area Agreement. As well as being monitored through the Safer Peterborough Partnership, the progress against this plan is monitored by the Greater Peterborough Partnership through the Performance Hub.

#### 4. COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

- 4.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires that a Community Safety Partnership is formed, bringing together agencies who are responsible for crime and disorder in the local area. It is acknowledged that far more can be achieved to making Peterborough a safer place if the agencies work together rather than in isolation. The Crime and Disorder Act specifies that responsible authorities are Peterborough City Council, Cambridgeshire Constabulary, NHS Peterborough, Cambridgeshire Fire Authority and Cambridgeshire Police Authority. These responsible authorities also invite other agencies who are able to contribute to the work to *co-operate* and these are Cambridgeshire Probation Service and Cross Keys Homes (representing Registered Social Landlords in the city). Other agencies, particularly from the voluntary and community sector are also *invited to participate* in the work of the Partnership. At present Peterborough and Fenland MIND and Peterborough Racial Equality Council represent the voluntary sector on the Partnership Board. Other voluntary groups are represented on other partnership groups.
- 4.2 The Safer Peterborough Partnership is one of the partnerships that forms the Greater Peterborough Partnership. It also oversees the outcomes in the Making Peterborough Safer block of the Local Area Agreement.
- 4.3 Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places on designated authorities a legal responsibility to consider the community safety implications of their actions

#### 5. SAFER PETERBOROUGH PARTNERSHIP PLAN

- 5.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998, revised by the Police and Justice Act 2006, requires that the Community Safety Partnership publishes a three year Partnership Plan in April 2008 which is reviewed and updated annually. This report brings the revised plan, updated for 2009/2010.
- 5.2 The priorities within the Partnership Plan are agreed following a Strategic Assessment which considers the performance in the previous twelve months and takes into account the concerns of the public.
- 5.3 It is not possible within this document to provide all of the improvement targets that will accompany this plan because some are still to be negotiated with central government and local indicators will be agreed when the individual action plans are approved to ensure these reflect the priority areas.
- 5.4 A summary document will be published to ensure that the public can clearly understand the priorities and improvement targets set.
- 5.5 The priorities set out in the Plan attached are:
- *Serious acquisitive crime*  
This means crimes where someone takes something that does not belong to them such as burglary from a house, theft from a car or theft of a car or robbery of personal property. We will be seeking to reduce these types of crime.
  - *Anti social behaviour*  
We will be seeking to reduce the anti social behaviour experienced in our communities. We will also be working hard to ensure that anti social behaviour does not concern the public to such an extent that it affects their quality of life.
  - *Domestic abuse*  
We will be working to increase reporting of domestic violence as we know that many people suffer in silence and never have access to the help that they need. Victims of domestic violence will also suffer abuse over and over again and we are going to work through our multi agency group to ensure that repeat incidents of domestic violence reduce for those victims who we are supporting.
  - *Violent crime*  
This area of work will focus upon violent crime, particularly in our city centre, which is often fuelled by alcohol. We will work with the licensed trade to improve safety in the pubs and clubs of our city. Young people using alcohol in public places in our neighbourhoods is an issue for many communities and we will be focusing upon reducing the harm caused by this behaviour.  
This year, following a review by the Safer Peterborough Partnership, hate crime will now be included within violent crime.
  - *Sexual offences*  
Although the numbers of people who are victims of sexual offences is very low we recognise the devastating effect that this can have upon the victim and their family. We will be working to increase reporting of this crime, which often goes unreported and improving the support provided to victims of sexual offences.
  - *Road safety*  
This area measures the national indicator for those who are killed or seriously injured on our roads.
- 5.6 For each of the priority areas, improvement targets will be identified that we believe will reflect the work that we are going to be doing and allow both the partnership and the public to measure whether or not we have been successful.
- 5.7 The Safer Peterborough Partnership Plan covers all the priorities of the Partnership for the coming three years. Indicators, both national and local, have been selected to effectively reflect the improvement that is planned. Some of these indicators have also been included with the Local Area Agreement.

## 6. IMPLICATIONS

## **6.1 Financial Implications**

The financial implications of this Plan will be considered by the Safer Peterborough Partnership as part of the implementation of the Plan.

## **6.2 Legal Implications**

There is a statutory requirement on the Council to contribute to the Safer Peterborough Partnership and to produce a Partnership Plan.

## **6.3 Cross Service Implications**

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 also requires that the Council considers the community safety implications of all decisions that are taken. The Plan therefore has implications for all departments in the Council and the Plan will be made available to all departments.

## **7. CONSULTATION**

7.1 A Members' briefing was held as part of the consultation for the Strategic Assessment where all members had the opportunity to comment upon the proposed priorities in the plan.

7.2 Consultation has been undertaken with the agencies within the Safer Peterborough Partnership and this comes to Community Development Scrutiny Panel with their endorsement. The Cabinet Member with responsibility for community safety is Vice Chair of the Community Safety Partnership and has therefore approved this plan.

7.3 The Safer Peterborough Partnership now has a Communications Strategy which sets out clearly how the Partnership will communicate with the public. The Partnership has also appointed a Communications Officer to oversee this vital area of work as it is recognised that there is discord between a person's chances of being a victim of crime and their fear of crime.

## **8. EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

8.1 Scrutiny Panel is asked to endorse this plan and recommend it to Cabinet for approval.

## **9. NEXT STEPS**

9.1 The Plan will now go to Cabinet on 30 March 2009 for approval.

9.2 The Plan will be endorsed by Full Council on 8 April 2009.

## **10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Crime and Disorder Act 1998

Police and Justice Act 2006

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