

**Report to
Public Protection Policy Development and
Review Panel**

Date **07 March 2017**

Report of: **Director of Planning and Regulation**

Subject: **COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP & POLICE CRIME PANEL
UPDATE**

SUMMARY

This report provides Members of the Public Protection Policy Development and Review Panel with an overview of the work undertaken by Fareham's Community Safety Partnership and the Partnership's performance to date.

RECOMMENDATION

The Panel is requested to note the performance and progress made by Fareham's Community Safety Partnership and the risks and challenges it faces in the future.

INTRODUCTION

1. Fareham's Community Safety Partnership is a long-established and very successful Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership. It was set up under section 5 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to reduce crime and disorder in the borough of Fareham. The Partnership is made up of "responsible authorities" together with invited members. The responsible authorities have statutory duties on the Partnership and are Fareham Borough Council, Hampshire County Council, Hampshire Constabulary, Hampshire Fire Authority, Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service, National Probation Service and Community Rehabilitation Company and Fareham and Gosport Clinical Commissioning Group. Invited organisations include, the Youth Offending Team, Neighbourhood Watch, Magistrates Court and Southern Domestic Abuse Service.

AIM AND PURPOSE OF THE PARTNERSHIP

2. The aim of the Partnership is to develop and build upon partnership working between all agencies in order to create a safer Fareham by reducing crime and disorder, including the fear of crime and contribute to making Fareham a safe place to live, work and visit. The importance of the Partnership is reflected in the Council's corporate priority, a safe and healthy place to live and work.

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

3. The new Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), Michael Lane, has been in his role since May and has produced his new Police and Crime Plan.

POLICE AND CRIME PLAN

4. The PCC's Police and Crime Plan focuses on four key priority areas that are designed to cut crime, protect the public and make communities safer. The PCC's four priorities are:-
 - Improving frontline policing;
 - Supporting victims and witnesses
 - Reducing crime and anti-social behaviour;
 - Reduce re-offending.

Fareham's Community Safety Strategy incorporates the above priorities and ensures that the Partnership delivers outcomes based on them.

POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

5. Alongside the relationship that councils have with PCC through the Community Safety Partnership, they have a direct role in holding commissioners to account. A Police and Crime Panel (PCP) has been established in Hampshire to scrutinise the PCC and support him in the effective exercise of his functions.

6. Councillor Trevor Cartwright is the Council's representative on the Police and Crime Panel and Councillor Michael Ford the appointed deputy. This arrangement provides the Community Safety Partnership and the Council with a direct link.

The Police and Crime Panel's main responsibilities are to:-

- Require the commissioner or a member of their staff to attend the panel to answer questions;
- Appoint an acting commissioner if the commissioner were to resign or be dismissed;
- If considered appropriate and necessary, veto the PCC's proposed precept;
- If considered appropriate and necessary veto the PCC's proposed appointment of a Chief Constable

Councillor Cartwright has been instrumental in ensuring proactive scrutiny has been carried out in relation to Child Sexual Exploitation, Mental Wellbeing, Victims and Witnesses, Youth Offending and Rural Crime.

HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT COMMUNITY SAFETY ALLIANCE

7. The Police and Crime Commissioner engages with all Hampshire Community Safety Partnerships through the Community Safety Alliance. Community Safety Partnership Chairmen and Community Safety Managers attend to raise emerging issues and risks faced by the Partnerships and work together to resolve them. The group meets quarterly and is represented by Councillor Trevor Cartwright who is supported by the Community Safety Manager.

PARTNERSHIP ACTION GROUP

8. Fareham's Partnership Action Group (PAG) is an extremely proactive local delivery group which focuses on victims, offenders and locations. The PAG meets monthly to discuss individuals that are causing anti-social behaviour in the community. All of the agencies that may be able to support come together to ensure that a co-ordinated action plan is put into place. Regular attendees include Housing, Mental Health, Two Saints, Inclusion, Catch 22, Adult Services, Police, Community Safety, Y Services and Motiv8. Victims of crime and perpetrators are referred to PAG from the fortnightly Tactical Planning meeting so we always know our most vulnerable residents and can ensure adequate support is in place for them as well as the perpetrators. Membership of the PAG is not exclusive; however, agencies are brought in if they are required and actions set accordingly. The PAG is jointly chaired by the District Commander and the Community Safety Manager.

CRIME REDUCTION STRATEGY 2017-18

9. Fareham Community Safety Partnership's latest Strategic Assessment identified 5 main areas of concern. Priorities that were identified and subsequently included in the current Strategy are:-

- **reducing and preventing anti-social behavior**
- **violent crime (including domestic abuse)**
- **reducing crimes related to alcohol and drugs**
- **preventing and reducing reoffending**
- **public reassurance and community engagement**

All of these priorities are being carried forward to this year's Community Safety Plan and are cross-referenced with the Police and Crime Plan priorities. Partner agencies are currently adding their initiatives to the 2017 action plan.

FAREHAM SUPPORTING FAMILIES

10. The Senior Responsible Officer for Fareham's Supporting Families is the Council's Community Safety Manager. Fareham has joined the Supporting Families Co-ordination Group and the Early Help Hub which meets each week.
11. The programme targets families with problems relating to crime, education and unemployment, domestic violence, children that require help and health issues. Families have plans which set out what the key worker or lead agency will do and what the family will do. The programme looks to ensure that children attend school regularly, parents are provided with training so they can get back to work, there are lower levels of crime and anti-social behaviour and that families work better as a unit, able to look after and support each other.
12. Fareham Supporting Families has engaged with 58 families during 2016. Community Safety leads on 25% of these families. In 2015 five families were successful in coming off benefits and entering employment and 22 families had improved outcomes in relation to attendance at school.
13. The new intensive support service is due to commence on 1 April 2017. The commissioned providers have been announced as Motiv8 and CSW Group Limited.

DOMESTIC HOMICIDE REVIEWS

14. Since April 2011, Community Safety Partnerships have been responsible for undertaking domestic homicide reviews. A clear process has been drafted and contacts made with organisation leads. The Partnership is clear about the procedure and steps to take if a domestic homicide review occurred in Fareham and the Community Safety Manager is currently working with the Police and Crime Commissioner to ensure that a Countywide approach is taken and template and processes aligned throughout Hampshire.

PREVENT

15. The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 contains a new duty on specified authorities to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. The government has produced guidance for specified authorities, which they must have regard to when complying with the duty. The duty applies to bodies which have significant interaction with people who could be vulnerable to

radicalisation. This ensures that the duty is proportionate. These include schools, local authorities, police forces, some NHS bodies, further and higher education providers, prisons and young offender institutions and providers of probation services. As a District Council, we have an important role to fulfil to ensure that none of our buildings (including our community centres and or our housing stock) are used by extremist groups to promote terrorism.

16. The Community Safety Manager has undertaken the Home Office WRAP Training and delivered combined safeguarding and Prevent training to frontline staff, Councillors and head teachers of Fareham Schools and Colleges. The Partnership Action Group will discuss referrals and refer high risk cases to Hampshire's Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub so they can access support through the Channel Panel.
17. Counter Terrorism Local Profile prepared by the Police has identified areas for community safety partners to deliver and is co-ordinated in a concise Action Plan which looks at delivering training, updating our safeguarding policy and procedures, ensuring the Council's community buildings are being let appropriately and an engagement plan highlights any emerging community groups. There is also requirement for emergency planning and community safety to work closely.

MODERN DAY SLAVERY, CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

18. Child sexual exploitation and slavery exist in the South East and across all other parts of the UK and involves children and adults. Concerns will be reported through the Council's existing safeguarding process. More information for staff about identifying signs of potential slavery has been incorporated into the Safeguarding Children and Adults Policy and training materials in relation to raising awareness for taxi drivers is being developed by the Community Safety and Licensing Teams.

COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVES

19. The Taxi Marshal Scheme is delivered within Fareham's town centre to support the Night-Time Economy in Fareham primarily on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays and is tasked to work with Police and Licensing. The role is undertaken by a security firm and it provides detailed daily reports which are reported at the monthly Partnership Action Group. A new funding request on behalf of Fareham and Gosport councils has been submitted to the Police and Crime Commissioner.
20. SNAP discos are held at Ferneham Hall and attract a large number of young people on selected Friday nights throughout the year. The Events Team deliver this on behalf of the Community Safety Partnership and there is regular attendance from Fire Service, Police, Youth Services, Councillors and volunteers ensure that this event happens in a safe environment. The Community Safety Partner Agencies provide educational awareness on subjects such as firearms and knife crime, drugs and alcohol, sexual health, skin protection, cycling safety and fire safety. The Community and Leisure Team has taken over the running of this event and it boasts large numbers attending each event.
21. The Community and Leisure Team delivered Access All Areas in summer 2016 at venues throughout Fareham. More than 2000 young people attended. The first event was at Fareham Leisure Centre where the open space outside was used for activities and scuba lessons and two inflatable pool parties took place inside.

Young people could also use the gym equipment and the badminton/squash courts. Salterns, Wicor Rec, and Stubbington were very successful with total wipe out courses at Stubbington. The final Fun Fair event was at Park Lane. There was positive feedback from the young people.

22. The Community Safety Team currently sits with colleagues in Environmental Health which has proven to work well as a number of cases overlap and can be resolved together. The Vanguard way of working has resulted in a large portion of community safety work being of a preventative nature, with early intervention, trying to understand behaviours and their causes and working with persons causing Anti-Social Behaviour, to behave in a more community friendly way. Mediation has featured strongly and been a successful way of resolving issues and allowing neighbours to live in harmony with one another. This has seen a subtle change in the anti-social behaviour officer's approach to this work, with that job title no longer reflecting the approach. Although the more serious offenders are still dealt with in a more robust manner, mainly by the Youth Crime Prevention Service and the Police with the Anti-Social Behaviour Officer providing a more supporting and advisory role.
23. Fareham Neighbourhood Watch has been re-launched with a new website <http://www.farehamnhw.co.uk/> and a new Chairman Carol Allington.
24. As a result of a rise in crime associated with street drinking, begging and taking of drugs in Fareham, the Council, together with Community Safety Partners consulted on, and finalised, a Public Spaces Protection Order. The first priority is to offer support around substance misuse, housing and benefits to the individuals. When all avenues of support have been exhausted and individuals affect the lives of residents, visitors and businesses, we now have enforcement powers which we can use. Signs will be erected around the town centre, officers delegated with new powers and positive communication and public awareness will be undertaken to reassure the public and encourage them to report incidents.

BUDGET, FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

25. The Community Safety fund is now held by the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and Community Safety Partnerships, along with community groups and voluntary sector organisations, can bid for this money. The Police and Crime Commissioner has set in place a strategy which stipulates that any successful bid will have an effective project plan in place, along with an evaluation and a link to one of the PCC's priorities identified within the Police and Crime Plan.
26. Fareham's Community Safety Partnership is awaiting the results of a grant funding application in conjunction with Gosport Community Safety Partnership in relation to Taxi Marshals.
27. Fareham Community Safety Partnership also hold £10,000 to discharge our statutory function imposed by the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004 to establish a Domestic Homicide Review should one need to be undertaken in Fareham.

CONCLUSION

28. The PCC has set out his funding streams and supports local delivery of initiatives to prevent and combat crime. It is therefore important that effective evaluation of successful initiatives is undertaken so that the PCC can see the benefit of local initiatives and the necessity for these to continue as this will be key to securing future funding streams.
29. We need to ensure that our local priorities have a direct correlation with the Police and Crime Commissioner's priorities.
30. At Fareham the co-location of services is working well and needs to be further developed inviting more agencies into the building. Innovative ways of working, including sponsorship and monitoring risks and performance, will ensure that the Partnership continues to progress. Fareham currently has the Community Rehabilitation Company, Youth Offending Team, Integrated Offender Management, Public Health England and the Transform Service co-located in the Civic Offices. It is hoped that the Police will shortly relocate in the Civic Offices making partnership working easier and more efficient.
31. Ensuring that the residents of Fareham feel part of the CSP and contribute to reduction in Crime is essential. Community engagement and empowering residents is vital. We will work to improve how residents can report crime, access local crime statistics and take part in community safety initiatives and consultations. Sharing of information between partner agencies, mainstreaming community safety within Fareham Borough Council will also ensure that all Officers and Councillors know what the Partnership priorities are and how together they can impact positively upon them.
32. Fareham remains a safe place to work, live and visit; however, the Partnership cannot be complacent and must ensure that all initiatives are evaluated and it can prove that its intervention does make a difference.

Background Papers:

None.

Reference Papers:

None.

Enquiries:

For further information on this report please contact Narinder Bains (Ext 4496).