

# FAREHAM

## BOROUGH COUNCIL

### **Report to the Health and Public Protection Policy Development and Review Panel**

**Date**                    **06 March 2018**

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

**Subject:**              **FAREHAM COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP**

#### **SUMMARY**

This report provides Members of the Panel with an overview of the work undertaken by Fareham's Community Safety Partnership

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Panel notes the 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 was established in 1998 in response to the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The Partnership is made up of a number agencies and organisations that work in partnership to tackle crime across the Borough of Fareham by undertaking a strategic assessment in relation to crime and disorder, identifying key local priorities and developing strategies to effectively reduce crimes, anti-social behaviour and criminal damage that have been highlighted.
2. 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**

3. 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 PANEL**

4. Councillor Cartwright represents Fareham Borough Council on Hampshire's Police and Crime Panel.
5. The Office of the Police Crime Commissioner has not announced where the main Fareham police station will be located. It is likely that it will be at the purpose-built premises at Park Gate with additional premises in Fareham Town Centre once a suitable location has been identified.
6. Funding issues continue to be a cause for concern, however the police service is not yet at crisis point and services to people at risk will continue to be provided.
7. The Police and Crime Panel is disappointed that there was no measurement of outcomes in the recent review of the Delivery Plan and has been critical of the lack of feedback on completed projects.
8. The Police and Crime Panel annual report has been produced and discussed. This includes the role of the Panel, the participants and the Proactive Scrutiny that has been undertaken and can be found on their website.
9. The Panel raised concern about the future of the PCSO role in neighbourhood policing, particularly in light of the level of funding that needs to be cut from the budget. The Community Safety Partnership Chairman will write to the Police Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable to put forward these concerns and to highlight the value the Borough places on the service provided by PCSOs and Neighbourhood Police.
10. On the 26 January 2018, the Police and Crime Panel support the precept increase of £12 per annum for a Band D household on the proviso that this sum is spent on Police

Officers and staff.

## **FAREHAM`S COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY 2018-19**

11. With the demise of the County Strategy Group and any analytical resource, the Community Safety Manager has used data from the British Crime Survey, Local Public Health profiles, District Crime figures and quarterly reports from community safety partners. Three priorities for Fareham are;-

- (i) **Violent Crime** which is increasing – particularly Youth on Youth violence and
- (ii) **Anti-social behaviour** – including drugs and alcohol related crime.
- (iii) Alongside these priorities there will be an over-arching priority to **reduce repeat offending.**

## **FAREHAM`S PARTNERSHIP ACTION GROUP**

12. Fareham's monthly Partnership Action Group is a best practice example of partnership working and an initiative we are very proud of. There is representation from the Chairman of the Community Safety Partnership, Mental Health Service, Children's Services, Adult Services, Enforcement, Environmental Health, Schools, Social Housing, Youth Services, Probation, Youth Offending Team, Community Safety, Youth Crime Prevention, Police, Inclusion and Two Saints amongst many. This forum allows the sharing of information to ensure that people are supported where required and resources allocated. Actions are completed in a timely manner and agencies held to account. Hampshire Constabulary have identified this as an example of best practice and we have received several invitations to attend the meeting from around the county.

## **FAREHAM SUPPORTING FAMILIES**

13. 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.

14. 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.

15. Fareham Supporting Families has engaged with 202 families since the start of the programme. The new phase intensive support service commenced on 1 April 2017. The commissioned providers for the Intensive Support Service are Motiv8 and Careers South West Group Limited.

16. All Fareham and Gosport PCSOs have been trained to lead on 2 families each.

## **DOMESTIC HOMICIDE REVIEWS**

17. 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 Community Safety Manager and Head of Environmental Health are named as points of contact with Hampshire Constabulary, as is the Chairman of the Community Safety Partnership, Councillor Cartwright.

## **PREVENT**

18. The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 contains a 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.
19. 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.
20. 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 a requirement for emergency planning and community safety to work closely.
21. The Home Office undertook a Peer Review in 2017 which led to several recommendations including setting up a County Strategy Group to provide appropriate governance to the Prevent Strategic Partnership Board.

## **MODERN SLAVERY, CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION**

22. 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.
23. The Local Government Association has provided a guidance document relating to Modern Slavery for local authorities.

## **COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVES**

24. 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.
25. The Community and Leisure Team delivered Access All Areas in summer 2017 at venues throughout Fareham, this initiative continues to be successful year on year.

26. 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.
27. Fareham Neighbourhood Watch has been encouraged to work independently with support from the Community Safety Manager and local Police Inspector. Their website <http://www.farehamnhw.co.uk/> has proven popular and Chairman Carol Allington has delivered a successfully co-ordinators meeting and will chair the AGM on 30 March 2018 at 7pm at Ferneham Hall.
28. 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 have been erected around the town centre, officers delegated with new powers and positive communication and public awareness has been undertaken to reassure the public and encourage them to report incidents.
29. We are also working with the Pharmacies Network to ensure the needle exchange programme is working efficiently, Public Health England to ensure that the services commissioned are appropriate and the Department for Works and Pensions to ensure we are preparing for Universal Credit.
30. We are working with Two Saints, Housing, Police and Inclusion in relation to tackling anti-social behaviour and rough sleepers. The Housing Options Manager is setting up a partnership group discussion to address emerging issues promptly.

### **BUDGET, FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

31. Fareham Community Safety Partnership holds £10,000 to discharge its 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.
32. All partner agencies are suffering cuts in funding. As a partnership we are attempting to find ways we can work together to address the areas where there are gaps.

### **CONCLUSION**

33. We need to ensure that our local priorities have a direct correlation with the Police and Crime Commissioner's priorities.
34. 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 MOTIV8 co-located in the Civic Offices. It is unfortunate that Police has not entered the building.

35. 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. The Community Safety Manager has worked with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner to improve Safetynet and produce a package of data and information that will, in future, inform our community safety strategy and priorities.

36. 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.

### **Appendices**

None

### **Background Papers:**

Local Authority Guidance – Modern Slavery

### **Reference Papers:**

### **Enquiries:**

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