

FAREHAM

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to Scrutiny Board

Date **3 July 2014**

Report of: **Director of Community**

Subject: **ANNUAL REPORT ON THE PERFORMANCE OF THE
COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP**

SUMMARY

The Council's Scrutiny Board has been designated as the Council's Committee with power to review or scrutinise decisions made or actions taken by the Fareham Community Safety Partnership. This report provides members of the Scrutiny Board 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. The powers to scrutinise are given to the scrutiny function of all local authorities by sections 19 and 20 of the Police and Justice Act 2006, as amended by section 126 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. Regulations have been passed under section 20 of the 2006 Act, and these provide local authorities with a framework for the development of an ongoing relationship between Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CSPs) and scrutiny bodies.
2. The Board should be undertaking reviews of the performance of the Partnership. Guidance suggests that, for the most part, reviews will concentrate on policy and performance matters. Issues relating to individual organisations should normally be pursued through existing scrutiny arrangements within that organisation.
3. When this matter was originally reported to the Scrutiny Board at its meeting on 24 September 2009 it was agreed that an annual report be presented to the Board on the performance of the Fareham Community Safety Partnership, in addition to any community safety issues that the Board may wish to scrutinise.

FAREHAM'S COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

4. 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 "co-operating bodies and persons". The last year has seen a change in statutory partnership members with the loss of the Police Authority and Primary Care Trust and the introduction of the Clinical Commissioning Groups. 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;
The Probation Trust and (Community Rehabilitation Company); and
Fareham and Gosport Clinical Commissioning Group.

5. From 1 April 2013 Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) replaced Primary Care Trusts as statutory partners on CSPs. CCGs have a duty to:-
 - participate in a strategic assessment of crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour, reducing re-offending and drug and alcohol misuse for the CSP area in which they fall;
 - contribute to the development of local strategies that effectively deal with the issues which are identified.

There are many areas which both CSPs and CCGs may have jointly or separately identified as priorities either through developing the joint health and wellbeing strategy or through the CSP and Health and Housing Panel. These include:-

- reducing alcohol and drug misuse;
- reducing domestic and sexual violence;
- improving access to mental health services;
- reducing anti-social behaviour;
- reducing street and youth violence;
- strengthening child and vulnerable adult safeguarding services.

There are many advantages for all community safety partners in working together with CCGs, in particular, creating aligned strategies across health and wellbeing, the Health and Housing Panel and CSP agendas provides the opportunity to improve care, reduce duplication of effort and identify and implement possible efficiencies for all agencies involved.

6. The reorganisation of Probation Services will see the 35 Probation Trusts dissolved in April 2014 and replaced with a National Probation Service (NPS) and 21 Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRCs). The CRCs, owned and run by those organisations that are successful in bidding to deliver services in a designated area under contract to the National Offender Management Service, will manage the majority of offenders in the community, those sentenced to community orders or suspended sentence orders, and those subject to post-custody licence conditions or supervision requirements.
7. The National Probation Service (NPS) will be a delivery arm of the National Offender Management Service comprising of local delivery units which will directly manage offenders who pose a high risk of serious harm to the public, including those whose risk has escalated and those released from custody who have committed serious offences. The National probation Service will also play a role in the management of all offenders, including conducting risk assessments, advising the courts on sentencing, responding to escalations in risk, and taking enforcement action.

AIM AND PURPOSE OF THE PARTNERSHIP

8. 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. A Partnership Agreement is in place, that all partners are signed up to and this clearly sets out the vision, aims and objectives of the partnership and the general governance arrangements relating to the operation of the partnership.
9. The importance of the Partnership is reflected in the Council's corporate priority, a safe and healthy place to live and work and this is delivered through the corporate improvement action 7, to work with the Community Safety Partnership to continue to reduce anti-social behaviour and crime in Fareham.
10. Appendix A highlights the actual groups and relationships between them in delivering community safety in Fareham.

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

11. On the 15 November 2012 police authorities in England and Wales were abolished and the police and crime commissioners were introduced via the election process. Simon Hayes was elected as Hampshire's first Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC).
12. Simon Hayes visited Fareham Community Safety Partnership in April 2013 and said "I've been very impressed with Fareham's Community Safety Partnership; the different agencies are working together with one purpose. the work that's done is innovative and successful to protect the residents from harm. there are social problems that need to be addressed in the community in Fareham and the CSP supports people, addresses those problems and tries to reduce reoffending".

POLICE AND CRIME PLAN

13. 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 to deter criminals and keep communities safe;
 - Place victims and witnesses at the heart of policing and wider criminal justice system;
 - Work together to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour;
 - Reduce re-offending.
14. Fareham's Community Safety Strategy incorporates the above priorities and ensures that the Partnership delivers outcomes based on them.

POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

15. Alongside the relationship that councils have with PCCs 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.
16. Councillor Trevor Cartwright is the Council's representative on the Police and Crime Panel and Councillor Mrs Kay Mandry was appointed the 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.

COUNTY STRATEGY GROUP FOR CRIME AND DISORDER

17. The role of this County group has changed since the introduction of the Police and Crime Commissioner as previously it was this group that used to administer the safer community grants to the district Community Safety Partnerships and other agencies. However this has now changed and the PCC is now responsible for managing this budget and awarding funding to the Community Safety Partnerships who in turn have to bid for the funding required in competition with all the other Community Safety Partnerships, groups and agencies.
18. However there is still a role for the County Strategy group in that it provides an interface between all the Community Safety Partnerships and the PCC and as such provides the opportunity to bid for funding and for the Countywide commissioning of services and community safety initiatives such as the Integrated Offender Management programme (IOM) and domestic abuse services.

COMMUNITY TASKING AND CO-ORDINATING GROUP

19. The Community Tasking and Co-ordinating Group (CTCG) is a multi-agency group which meets at the Police Station every month. Membership of the group is not exclusive; however, there is a core membership that is considered crucial to the overall effectiveness of the group. Members are expected to have delegated authority to be able to commit resources to the process and make decisions on behalf of the organisation they represent. This is usually in terms of officer time that may require organisations to divert resources in order to help address a particular issue. The core membership is:
 - Analyst (Police)
 - Chair of the Community Safety Partnership (FBC)
 - Community Safety Manager (FBC)
 - Station Manager or Community Safety Officer (HF&R)
 - Accredited Community Support Officers (ACSO's)
 - Youth Service (HCC)
 - Licensing (Police and FBC)
 - Enforcement Team (FBC)
 - Environmental Health (FBC)
 - District Chief Inspector
 - Sector Inspector
 - Neighbourhood Sergeants
 - Hampshire Youth Offending Team Police Officer
 - Administrative Support (FBC).
20. During the meeting individuals and the agencies they represent are tasked to carry out actions. Those individuals/agencies report back to the CTCG on progress and or the outcome of the task and the fact that this occurs on a monthly basis enables progress to be closely monitored and reports and actions followed up. The items discussed are of a geographical nature with an opportunity to refer individuals to the ASB Panel.

21. The CTCG now utilises information from Police Record Management system, Command Central and Crime Reports (Police records systems) to effectively task partners and use resources astutely. Use of Safetynet by all community safety partners ensures that cases can be managed effectively. Police analysts co-ordinate and prepare a monthly report which is discussed and added to at each meeting.

CRIME REDUCTION STRATEGY 2014-2017

22. 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 behaviour
 - violent crime (including domestic abuse)
 - reducing crimes related to alcohol and drugs
 - preventing and reducing reoffending
 - public reassurance and community engagement.
23. A work programme and an action plan are produced annually to ensure that actions identified under each priority area, that help reduce and prevent crime, are delivered within a timely period and allocated appropriate funding. A lead agency and a member of the Community Safety Team are identified to deliver the actions and a target date set for each action to be completed. The actions are reviewed quarterly by the Performance Group and reported to the full CSP meeting and complement the priorities set in the PCC's Police and Crime Plan.

PERFORMANCE

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR PANEL

24. The Anti-social Behaviour Panel is a monthly multi agency meeting that is jointly delivered with Gosport Community Safety Partnership. The panel successfully tasks agencies to support and manage perpetrators and high risk victims of ASB. The ASB panel supports Fareham CSP's priority of reducing ASB. Any geographical trends are referred to the CTCG.

FAREHAM & GOSPORT DOMESTIC ABUSE FORUM

25. Fareham & Gosport Domestic Abuse Forum is delivered jointly with Gosport Community Safety Partnership and delivers the actions that are identified under the violent crime priority. A clear action plan has been set and monitored through the performance group. Working with the new Clinical Commissioning Groups and reforming the MARAC process are some of the actions included within this work plan.
26. MARACs - (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences) are multi agency meetings that bring together practitioners that deal with Domestic Violence. The Community Safety Team attends these meetings to discuss high level domestic abuse perpetrators and victims.

FAREHAM SUPPORTING FAMILIES

27. Hampshire Supporting Troubled Families Programme is a 5 year programme that commenced on 1 April 2012. The challenge is to target 1,600 families in Hampshire with multiple, complex issues, delivering new solutions to persistent problems and delivering positive change for families and communities. This programme offers a new, joined up way of improving and transforming the lives of communities across Hampshire.
28. The Senior Responsible Officer for Fareham's Supporting Families is the Council's Community Safety Manager, who sits on the Fareham Local Children's Partnership (LCP) Strategic Board, to which the Supporting Families Local Co-ordination Group, which is responsible for delivering the programme, reports. This also provides a key link into the Community Safety Partnership to ensure a joined up and co-ordinated approach.
29. The programme targets families with problems relating to crime, education and unemployment. 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. Roll out of an Early Help Hub, a multi-agency team which will meet weekly to act upon referred cases, will be up and running in Fareham by the end of October 2014.

DOMESTIC HOMICIDE REVIEWS

30. 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 colleagues in Hampshire to ensure that a Countywide approach is taken and template and processes aligned throughout Hampshire.

COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVES

31. Fareham's Community Safety Partnership's website <http://www.saferfareham.co.uk/> has been an excellent asset to the partnership enabling public and partners to gain and share information on initiatives and performance. The website is a page on Fareham Council's website and can also be accessed via the Safety tab.
32. 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 Community Tasking and Co-ordination meetings.
33. Fareham's Community Safety Partnership is currently consulting to bring Hampshire County Council's Safe Places Scheme to Fareham. This scheme is part of a wider "respect me" campaign which aims to improve the experience of vulnerable people in the community. The scheme aims to provide vulnerable people, and particularly those

with a learning disability, with a safe place to go to where help can be summoned if they are feeling scared or upset while out on their own in the community. The Community Safety Team will work with Connect Advocacy, the town centre management group and local vulnerable groups to deliver this scheme.

34. Fareham's Community Safety Partnership has taken overall control of running Say No and Phone discos (SNAP). These discos are held at Ferneham Hall and attract between 750 and 800 young people on Friday nights throughout the year. The Community Safety Team, 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.
35. The Community Safety Team delivered an extremely successful summer diversionary programme "Access All Areas" which ran from 29 July to 14 August 2013 and Fareham is working collaboratively with Winchester CSP to deliver the same programme again this year, thanks to funding by the Police and Crime Commissioner. Access All Areas 2014 will run from Monday 28 July to Wednesday 13 August 2014 and venues will be Cams Alders, Locks Heath District Centre, Titchfield Recreation Ground, Bishops Waltham, Alresford, Portchester, Hill Head, Henry Cort, Denmead, Winchester City, Stubbington Recreation Ground, Locks Heath Football Club. The grand finale, Whestival, will be at Meadowside Recreation Ground, Whiteley. First Bus and Stagecoach have agreed to provide free transport during the events, Wave 105 is the promotion radio station, Asda, Tesco and Sainsbury's are providing the free BBQ, cakes, water and refreshments. Community Clubs such as Pompey in the Community, Fareham Heathens, Jubilee 77, Locks Heath Football Club, Music Fusion, No Limits, Motiv8, Y Services, Seafarers Sailing Club, Fareham Rotary Club, Phoenix Driver Training, Titchfield Boxing Club and Crofton Bowling are also involved.

CCTV

36. Fareham Borough Council's Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) system is operated jointly with Gosport Borough Council. This has enabled efficiency savings to be made in the provision, operation, maintenance and monitoring of the system as the costs are shared between both Councils.
37. Fareham Borough Council has 44 CCTV cameras placed in strategic areas of the Borough; these CCTV cameras are used for the purpose of:
 - Providing a deterrent to crime and anti-social behaviour
 - Increasing public reassurance by reducing the fear of crime
 - Gathering evidence to support the detection and prosecution of offences
 - Traffic monitoring
 - Management of the Council's services.
38. The CCTV Control Room was upgraded in 2009; the upgrade program replaced the outdated control and recording equipment in the CCTV Control Room.
39. Shopwatch and Pubwatch are also linked into the CCTV Control Centre that enables coordinated communication links with the CCTV operators as well as the police.

40. The system is operated 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The cameras not only capture crime but also help local residents and visitors feel safe in their communities. In particular the CCTV cameras monitor the town centre car parks and public areas. This is also an asset to the police and the Council in managing the night time economy.

RESIDENTS' SURVEY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

41. 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. This complements Fareham Borough Council's Corporate Priority of ensuring Fareham remains a **safe and healthy place to live and work** and this is achieved through one of the corporate priority actions of working with the community safety partnership to continue to reduce anti-social behaviour and crime in Fareham.
42. In order to gauge the views of residents the Council undertakes regular residents' surveys. Fareham Borough Council conducted a residents' survey in 2013, where respondents ranked "Working with the Police to reduce crime" as a high priority Council service, second only to collecting household waste and recycling.
43. The results from the residents' survey were very positive and reflected the achievements that have been made by the Fareham Community Safety Partnership to date:
- 90% thought that the police and Fareham Borough Council were successfully dealing with crime, antisocial behaviour and neighbour nuisance, compared to 88% in 2011 and 67% in 2009.
 - 84% thought that teenagers hanging around in public places was not a problem, 10% more than in 2011
 - 92% did not think there was a problem with people using or dealing drugs, 9% more than in 2011.
 - 89% thought that people being drunk or rowdy in public places was not a problem, 9% more than in 2011.
 - 86% of people did not think that feeling unsafe on a night out was a problem in Fareham.
 - 99% of people thought there was no problem with abandoned or burnt out cars, compared to 95% in 2011.
 - 91% did not think there was a problem with vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage to property or vehicles, 11% more than in 2011.
44. Although 90% of Fareham's residents thought that the police and Fareham Borough Council were successfully dealing with crime, antisocial behaviour and neighbour nuisance, there are still 10% of residents that have never heard of the good work the Partnership is undertaking. Therefore there is a need to further highlight and promote the successes and positive work that is being undertaken in making Fareham a safe and healthy place to live, work and visit.
45. The Community Safety Partnership is represented at all community action team meetings (CATs), initiatives are regularly promoted at council connect, the saferfareham website is kept up to date and members are also kept up to date via

information that is placed in the members' newsletter.

46. The Community Safety Team and Police are working with Fareham Neighbourhood Watch to improve information sharing and make best use of the partnership website to promote reporting and the use of the Police 101 system, Crime Reports, Crimestoppers and Safetynet.
47. Fareham's Community Safety Partnership has highlighted four opportunities to officially consult with different resident groups and will also produce a promotional leaflet to celebrate successes the partnership has achieved.

BUDGET, FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS, CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

48. In July 2013 the significant change in funding streams was reported. As highlighted earlier, 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.
49. Fareham's Community Safety Partnership was successful in obtaining funding to the sum of £25,000 to deliver Access All Areas in 2014 jointly with Winchester Community Safety Partnership and initiatives to reduce anti-social behaviour and to reduce violence associated with the night-time economy.
50. Fareham's Community Safety Partnership has also been granted funding in relation to Taxi Marshals (£19,000), Mediation (£1,750), victims of Anti-social behaviour for 2014 (£9,000).
51. It is important to sustain funding and ensuring that it is being used effectively by monitoring the annual action plan's progress and being able to evaluate the successes of the initiatives being implemented.
52. Fareham Borough Council has already mainstreamed the community safety team's posts which reflects the Council's commitment in delivering the corporate priority of Fareham being a safe and healthy place to live and work. The core team consists of one manager, two part-time community safety officers, a part-time analyst and an anti-social behaviour officer, who all work with the Council's community safety partners in delivering the actions contained within the Community Safety Strategy and Action Plan. At present the data analyst/community safety officer is seconded to the Fareham Park Project. This situation is continually being reviewed.
53. 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.
54. The opportunity to work collaboratively with neighbouring CSPs has been progressed and Fareham works with Gosport with the ASB Panel, Domestic Abuse Forum and the Young Fire Fighters Association. It is also delivering the Access All Areas 2014 with Winchester CSP. These collaborative areas of work confirm that efficiencies can be made in both time and resource.

55. There are considerable challenges and demands being put on CSPs which include funding and will ultimately impact upon the level of service delivered. Ensuring that evidence based bids are submitted to the PCC and other funding providers is essential to the success of the Partnership.

RISK ASSESSMENT

56. The most significant risk is the availability of resources and funding to deliver the priorities in the plan. The commitment of all the partners is clear and the fact that the work of the partners is well co-ordinated to ensure the best use of resources enables the performance of the Partnership to be maintained.
57. The re-organisation of Hampshire Constabulary and the privatisation of the Probation Service are risks that the Partnership and Scrutiny Board have to be aware of and influence. There will be an impact on delivery of community safety within the Borough and an opportunity to question leading members of these organisations will be essential.

CONCLUSION

58. 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.
59. Fareham's Community Safety Partnership is working collaboratively with Gosport Borough Council and Winchester City Council to ensure that efficiencies are made by delivering initiatives jointly whilst maintaining a reduction of crime in Fareham. Co-location of services is working well in Fareham 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.
60. 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 a combined priority area for both Fareham CSP and the PCC. Letting residents know how to 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.
61. 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).