

Scrutiny Committee Report



Report of Head of Legal and Democratic Services

Author: Liz Hayden

Telephone: 01491 823705

E-mail: Liz.hayden@southandvale.gov.uk

Executive member responsible: Dorothy Brown

Tel: 01844 358283

E-mail: dorothy.brown@southoxon.gov.uk

DATE: 15 November 2011

AGENDA ITEM 4

Community Safety Strategy 2008/11

Recommendation

To note the community safety report 2010/11

Purpose of Report

1. This report is a progress update of the delivery of the final year of the community safety strategy 2008/11. It shows how the partnership delivered against its priorities for the period 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011.

Strategic Objectives

2. Helping people feel safe and secure

Which includes the following corporate priorities:

- Tackle crime and antisocial behaviour
- Maintain low levels of fear of crime and antisocial behaviour

3. Provide value for money services that meet the needs of our residents and service users

Which includes the following corporate priorities:

- Provide value for money services that meet the needs of our residents and service users
- Provide equality of access to our services

Background

4. The South Community Safety Partnership (CSP) was created in accordance with the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, and established partnership working between the police, local authorities fire and rescue, primary care trusts and police authorities. The Policing and Crime Act 2009 further extended this duty to include Probation from 1 April 2010.

The purpose of the partnership was to ensure that these responsible authorities worked together to tackle crime and disorder specifically including anti social behaviour and substance misuse and develop and deliver a three year strategy, updated annually to achieve this.

When the Government came to power it scrapped the previous top down performance management structure, this included national indicators, local area agreements, comprehensive area assessments and several existing strategies. New crime and Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) strategies are outstanding; in addition there is an emphasis on localism and locally set targets. Moving forward the Oxfordshire Safer Communities Partnership agreed a template for an interim rolling plan to guide the CSPs through this period of transition following the comprehensive spending review and introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners.

The introduction of PCCs will mean a fundamental change for community safety partnerships. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill places a mutual duty on PCCs and the responsible authorities of CSPs to co-operate to reduce crime and disorder and re-offending. In addition, both will have to have regard to each others priorities when drawing up their plans.

This report is a progress update of the delivery of the final year of the community safety strategy 2008/11. It shows how the partnership delivered against its priorities for the period 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011.

Moving forward, the 2011/12 annual plan aims to address the national and local crime priorities of the South and Vale and sets out the way that we will engage with communities. Once a year, the CSP is required to conduct a Strategic Intelligence Assessment (SIA) to identify the priorities for the forthcoming year. We use this information to develop the annual rolling community safety plan

The South and Vale Community Safety Partnerships have both approved a process to pilot a new partnership from the 1 April 2011, which is coterminous with the newly formed local police area. This has enabled the partnership to pool expertise, knowledge and resources to effectively tackle crime and disorder, and reduce the number of meetings that partnership officers and statutory members are expected to attend.

Financial Implications

5. N/A

Legal Implications

6. N/A

Risks

7. The CSP funding has been reducing year on year; cut by 20 per cent during 2011/12 with a further 40 per cent reduction anticipated for 2012/13. The funding will transfer to the newly appointed Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) with effect from 1 April 2013.

Other Implications

8. N/A

Conclusion

9. The government recognises that when agencies work together they can tackle crime and disorder more effectively than when they work alone. There will be a mutual duty on PCCs and CSPs to cooperate and both will have to have regard to each other's priorities when drawing up their annual plans.

Background Papers

- Community Safety Strategy 2010/11 report
- South and Vale Community Safety Partnership rolling annual plan 2011-12