

Scrutiny Committee Report



Report of Head of Legal and Democratic Services

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**AGENDA ITEM
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Community safety annual plan - 2011/12 review

Recommendation

To note the South and Vale Community Safety Partnership 2011/12 report.

Purpose of Report

1. This report is a progress update of the delivery of the 2011/12 South and Vale Community Safety Partnership annual plan. It shows how the partnership delivered against its priorities for the period 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2012.

Strategic Objectives

2. Building the local economy

which includes the following corporate priority:

- maintain low levels of crime and anti social behaviour

3. Excellent delivery of key services

which includes the following corporate priority:

- put residents at the heart of service delivery and seek to provide an excellent customer experience

Background

4. The South and Vale Community Safety Partnership (CSP) was formed in April 2011, bringing together the two existing district CSPs that were created in accordance with the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. This was done so that the partnership was coterminous with the newly formed local police area and mirrored the shared working across the district councils. Running one joint partnership has enabled the partnership to pool expertise, knowledge and resources to effectively tackle crime and disorder. It has also reduced the number of meetings that partnership officers and statutory members are expected to attend.
5. Under the umbrella of the South and Vale CSP, a wide variety of local agencies work together to maintain low levels of crime and anti-social behaviour in South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse. From road safety, enviro-crime action and crime prevention to police enforcement, drug treatment services and alcohol safety campaigns, the partnership is focussed on ensuring that residents feel and stay safe.
6. The partnership involves officers representing:
 - South Oxfordshire District Council
 - Vale of White Horse District Council
 - NHS Oxfordshire
 - Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)
 - Thames Valley Police (TVP)
 - Thames Valley Police Authority
 - Thames Valley Probation Service
 - Sovereign Vale Housing Association
 - Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Service
 - Soha Housing Limited.
 - Oxfordshire Drug & Alcohol Action Team (DAAT)
7. The CSP has two 'operational', multi-agency groups which help to deliver its objectives across both districts: South and Vale Nightsafe and South and Vale Joint Agency Tasking and Co-ordination.
8. This report is a progress update of the delivery of the 2011/12 CSP annual plan. It shows how the partnership delivered against its priorities which focussed around three key areas:
 - projects that tackle concerns affecting the whole **community**
 - projects that support **victims** or prevent people from becoming a victim of crime or anti-social behaviour
 - projects that tackle **offenders** or those who are at risk of committing, crime and anti-social behaviour
9. Once a year, the CSP is required to conduct a Strategic Intelligence Assessment (SIA) to identify the priorities for the forthcoming year. In 2011/12, we worked with Thames Valley Police and co-ordinated our feedback so it could feed directly into their SIA and we used this information to inform our 2012/13 annual rolling community safety plan. The CSP refreshed its objectives for 2012/13 to ensure

they continue to reflect the national and local community safety priorities. The Partnership's activities remain focused around three key areas outlined above.

10. The election of the Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner on 15 November will herald a significant change to the way that policing and community safety is managed and funded across the area. From April 2013, the PCC will be responsible for all Home Office grants for community safety and the CSP does not yet know how the PCC will choose to allocate this funding. However, we do know that the statutory duty to run a CSP remains and the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act places a mutual duty on PCCs and the responsible authorities of the CSPs to co-operate to reduce crime and disorder and re-offending. In addition, both will have to have regard to each other's priorities when drawing up their plans.

Financial Implications

11. None.

Legal Implications

12. None.

Risks

13. The CSP funding from the Home Office has been reducing year on year: in 2011/12, it was cut by 20 per cent. In 2012/13, it has been reduced by a further 40 per cent although Oxfordshire County Council agreed to plug the gap for the county CSPs as a one-off. The Home Office funding will transfer to the PCC with effect from 1 April 2013.

Other Implications

14. None.

Conclusion

15. The CSP has successfully delivered its priorities during 2011/12 and there was an overall positive direction of travel in terms of achieving outcomes to reduce crime and the fear of crime for residents in South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse. Through the year, the partnership demonstrated added value in addressing local community safety issues in a joined up and efficient way and paying particular attention to the needs of the most vulnerable people in our districts. In 2012/13, the CSP aims to continue delivering this standard of service and preparing for the introduction of the PCC.

Appendix attached

- South and Vale Community Safety Partnership (CSP) summary of projects 2011/12

Background Papers

- South and Vale CSP rolling annual plan 2012/13

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