

EXETER CITY COUNCIL

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - COMMUNITY 28 MAY 2013

COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To update Members on the work of the Exeter Community Safety Partnership (Exeter CSP).

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Community Safety Partnerships exist by law (Crime & Disorder Act 1998 with a little extra added in the Police Reform Act 2002) and were established to bring statutory agencies together to reduce crime and disorder. Agencies that have to be represented within the partnership are: Police; local authorities; Probation; Fire and Rescue; NHS; and Youth Offending Teams.

- 2.2 Current membership of the Exeter CSP is:

- Exeter City Council
- Devon and Cornwall Police
- Devon County Council
- Devon Clinical Commissioning Group
- Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service
- Devon Probation Trust
- Youth Offending Service
- Exeter Council for Voluntary Service
- Police and Crime Commissioner

3. PRIORITIES

- 3.1 A Peninsula Crime and Disorder Strategic Assessment (PSA) has been prepared to inform the work of the Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). The PSA draws together findings of the individual strategic assessments of all the community safety partnerships (CSPs) across Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

- 3.2 The document provides information about community safety priorities across the area, with supporting evidence, to ensure that the priorities are understood. It sets out what is being done to address the challenges presented to CSPs.

- 3.3 The PSA lists the four current priorities that most affect communities across the area:

- Domestic, family and sexual abuse.
- Alcohol, violence & the night time economy.
- Anti-social behaviour
- Reoffending

- 3.4 At its away day in November 2012 the Exeter CSP agreed to adopt the PSA priorities as they reflect relevant and current issues for the city. The Exeter CSP also agreed that work should be done to assess the true impact of hate crime on our communities, to improve understanding of issues for vulnerable groups and to improve reporting.

4. GOVERNANCE AND DELIVERY

- 4.1 The Exeter CSP agreed that a revised governance structure would offer clear accountability and focus, with the existing Executive Group offering strategic direction and overseeing Task and Finish Groups who would take responsibility for delivery against priorities.
- 4.2 The Executive Group will be responsible for strategic direction and ensuring:
- identified priorities are driven by way of task and finish groups;
 - relationships continue to be built and maintained in order that activity and resources are shared to greatest effect;
 - funds and resources are identified where appropriate to enable positive outcomes for the CSP;
 - best practice and successes are highlighted to both the PCC and the community,
 - Exeter CSP maintains the level of funding and commitment required for progress in Exeter.
- 4.3 Task and Finish groups will be the tactical element of Exeter CSP activity with each CSP priority assigned a lead agency that will drive action on behalf of the partnership and report progress to the CSP Executive Group.
- 4.4 Where additional activity or support is required for new priorities a Task and Finish group will be set up. It is acknowledged that membership may vary depending on availability and resourcing within agencies. The lead for each current Task and Finish group is as follows:
- Domestic, Family and Sexual Abuse – Devon County Council (in consultation with ADVA)
 - Alcohol, Violence and Night Time Economy – Police with possible joint Chair of the City Centre manager
 - Anti-Social Behaviour – Exeter City Council. The existing ASBAT (Anti Social Behaviour Action Team) will be expanded to include the Fire and Rescue Service
 - Reoffending – Devon Probation Trust building on existing “Turnaround” group.

5. FUNDING

- 5.1 The PCC has allocated a budget of £7,200 to Exeter CSP for 2013-14 for the delivery of the Anti-Social Behaviour priority, and there is an opportunity to bid for additional funds for the other priorities.
- 5.2 The Safer Devon Partnership will administer funds and the reporting process on behalf of the PCC, which requires the Exeter CSP to make quarterly returns.

6. RECOMMENDATION

That Members note the content of the report.

CORPORATE MANAGER POLICY/COMMUNICATIONS/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

S:PA/LP/ Committee/513SCC15
29.4.13

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 (as amended)
Background papers used in compiling this report: