

External Services Scrutiny Committee

Meeting to be held on Tuesday, 25 July 2017

Electoral Division affected:
(All Divisions);

Community Safety

Appendices A and B refer

Contact for further information:
Clare Platt, Head of Health Equity Welfare & Partnerships, Lancashire County Council, Tel: 07876 844627; E-mail clare.platt@lancashire.gov.uk

Executive Summary

This report provides an overview of Community Safety Partnership arrangements in Lancashire; it sets out the legislative requirements for partnership working in relation to community safety and the governance arrangements in place across Lancashire, together with the current Lancashire Community Safety Agreement.

Recommendation

The External Services Scrutiny Committee is asked to:

- i. Note and comment on the Community Safety Partnership arrangements; and
- ii. Determine opportunities for further scrutiny where the Committee feels it can add value, influence or be involved with at an early stage.

Background and Advice

The statutory obligations of community safety partners are set out in a range of legislation. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 established the duty of public bodies to consider the impact on crime and disorder through the delivery of its services and activities. The current requirements are:

- In county areas there should be a county strategy group with a duty to produce an annual Community Safety Agreement and a clear process for escalation of issues from a local level. In such areas where this applies, it is the county council that maintains this group.
- At a local level, there should be a strategy group to conduct a strategic assessment and formulate and implement a community safety plan for that area. In such areas where this applies, it is the district council/s that maintain these groups.
- The Responsible Authorities that are required to participate include county councils, unitary and district councils, police, fire and rescue service, national

probation service, community rehabilitation companies and clinical commissioning groups.

- Local strategy groups are required to conduct a Domestic Homicide Review where it is determined that a qualifying case has occurred.
- Legislation also requires provisions to facilitate information sharing within strategy groups and ensure that when preparing and implementing a strategic assessment and partnership plan the strategy groups engage with their local communities.

The Police and Justice Act 2006 requires local authorities to have in place arrangements to scrutinise the functioning of the local Strategy Group, and for the County Strategy Group in two tier areas. This is fulfilled by reporting to the Scrutiny Committees of the relevant district / unitary council and the County Council

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 sets out a requirement for community safety partnerships / county strategy groups to have due regard for the priorities of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). PCCs are not statutory members of community safety partnerships / county strategy groups but have the following related powers and duties:

- reciprocal duty for PCCs and community safety responsible authorities to co-operate with each other for the purposes of reducing crime and disorder
- to bring together representatives within the area to discuss priority issues
- to require reports from partnerships about issues of concern
- to approve mergers of CSPs where responsible authorities agree and apply (this was formerly the duty of the Secretary of State)
- to commission community safety work from a range of local partners and providers

The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places statutory duties upon specified authorities, under the 'Prevent' strand of the CONTEST strategy (the UK's Counter Terrorism Strategy) to have "due regard in the exercise of their functions to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism".

Governance in Lancashire

The legislation provides for strategic activity at both a county and local level. The challenge is to do this in the most effective manner and to reduce duplication.

In September 2014 agreement was reached to disestablish the Lancashire Community Safety Strategy Group and the statutory functions of this group would instead be delivered through the existing Lancashire Chief Executives Group; this function is now delivered through the Lancashire Public Service Board (LPSB) in their role as the Community Safety County Strategy Group (CSCSG).

Historically the Group has nominated a lead Chief Executive for Community Safety issues, and in February 2017 Angela Harrison, Director for the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner was nominated for this role.

Partnership Structure

There are 12 local community safety partnerships (CSPs) across pan Lancashire, each has various levels of multi-agency thematic, tactical and case conferencing groups sitting beneath them. The structure is detailed at Appendix A. There are generally two meetings a year where local CSP managers meet to discuss how best to link strategic priorities through to local operational delivery. This supports collaboration between local authorities and with LCC. It also provides a link through to various pan Lancashire strategic boards. The key ones currently:

- CONTEST Board (Chaired by Harry Catherall, Chief Executive, Blackburn with Darwen Council)
- Lancashire Strategic Hate Crime & Cohesion Group (Chaired by Chief Inspector Ian Mills)
- Pan Lancashire Child Sexual Exploitation / Missing From Home Strategic Board (Chaired by Jane Booth, Independent Chair, Lancashire Safeguarding Children and Adults Boards)
- Lancashire Road Safety Partnership (Chaired by Assistant Chief Constable Tim Jacques)
- Pan-Lancashire Domestic Abuse Strategic Board (Chair vacant)
- Lancashire Criminal Justice Board (Chaired by Assistant Chief Constable Time Jacques)

The Serious and Organised Crime Strategy was approved by Chief Executives in November 2016 and operational meetings (commonly known as Genga meetings) are held locally and chaired by community safety managers. Central governance is provided by Detective Chief Inspector Ian Dawson.

Additionally there are links with key partnerships including the Health and Wellbeing Boards, Children and Young Peoples Trust and the Children and Adults Safeguarding Boards.

The LPSB, as the CSCSG, will continue to fulfil the appropriate statutory requirements:

- the development and effective implementation of an annual community safety agreement in line with issues and threats identified by a strategic assessment
- respond and implement arrangements in relation to national priorities such as CONTEST counter terrorism strategy
- engagement with the Office of the PCC
- provide a route for local CSPs to escalate issues

Work is also to be undertaken to review the terms of reference for the county strategy group in light of public service structure reform.

Strategic Assessment and Community Safety Agreement

- [The Strategic Assessment](#) (SA) provides an account of long-term issues and threats from crime and anti-social behaviour (ASB), providing the main evidence

base that underpins the community safety agreement, local partnership plans, [The Police and Crime Plan](#) and the Constabulary control strategy.

In Lancashire a single assessment is carried out on behalf of the County Strategy Group, unitary and local CSPs and the Police and Crime Commissioner, ensuring a shared evidence base through which to set priorities. It is produced on a 3-year cycle, with an annual evaluation of key findings.

The current SA was agreed in September 2015 and is the result of research, analysis, engagement and consultation with key stakeholders, community safety partner agencies, all 14 local authorities and community engagement through the Living in Lancashire questionnaire.

The Community Safety Agreement (CSA) (Appendix B) is a strategic agreement between the responsible authorities identifying how we will work together to address the community safety priorities. The current CSA was reviewed and updated in 2016 to reflect the issues and threats from crime and anti-social behaviour evidenced in the latest SA. It identifies how the partners work together to address the identified priorities.

Ongoing review by the community safety analyst team confirmed that there were no changes to the strategic priorities during the first year, and therefore the CSA agreed by the Chief Executives Group on 10 March 2016 was considered appropriate to take forward for 2017-18 with no amendments

Timelines

There is a three-cycle for strategic analysis. In Lancashire the next cycle commences early 2018 and will involve an initial conference that will outline the project plan. This will be followed by a series of engagement and consultation workshops / events across the county and held at a local level for stakeholders and partners; with the analysis completed in the autumn of 2018.

In the years between the strategic assessments there is a work-plan of activity that has been developed to address gaps in knowledge and recommendations in the strategic assessment or from the CSCSG.

Current analytical work includes examining victimisation, reoffending, human trafficking, modern slavery and the exploitation of people. In addition, there is a project (in collaboration between community safety, Lancashire Constabulary and Leeds University) examining the nature and extent of hate crime.

Information Sharing

Work is currently underway to update MADE (Multi-Agency Data Exchange) into 'MADE-interactive'. This will provide an interactive service for all end-users across the partnership. It will incorporate an automated performance dashboard for each local CSP, to provide partners with monthly information on key priority indicators, as well as updates from partnership intelligence assessments and JSNAs.

The CSA Information Sharing Protocol (ISP) was last updated in November 2014. The existing ISP has been recently reviewed by LCC information governance staff and is fit for purpose with some minor amendments to reflect current governance structures and confirmation of which meetings are using the current ISP. Ongoing review of the ISP will take place as required.

Resources

There are currently no dedicated funding streams allocated by central government to community safety partnerships. Locally, the PCC provides a grant to each unitary and district council each year for local community safety projects and interventions.

Provision for intelligence gathering and production of the strategic assessment is managed and coordinated at a county level. A team of analysts carry out partnership intelligence assessments to an agreed annual work-plan, funded from a variety of sources including the County Council, Police, the PCC, the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership and project funding.

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Risk management

This report has no significant risk implications.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
-------	------	-------------

N/A

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A