

Cabinet - 4 December 2014

Report of the Interim Executive Director for Children and Young People

Electoral Division affected:

All

Lancashire Community Safety Agreement 2014/16

(Appendix 'A' refers)

Contact for further information:

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Executive Summary

We have a strong history of partnership working in Lancashire and are committed to continuing to make it a safe place to live, work and visit. Key community safety partners include:

Blackburn with Darwen Council	Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service
Blackpool Council	Lancashire Police & Crime Commissioner
Burnley Borough Council	Lancashire Probation Trust*
Chorley Borough Council	Lancaster City Council
Clinical Commissioning Groups	Pendle Borough Council
Crown Prosecution Service	Preston City Council
Fylde Borough Council	Ribble Valley Borough Council
HM Courts and Tribunal Service	Rosendale Borough Council
HM Prison Service	South Ribble Borough Council
Hyndburn Borough Council	West Lancashire Borough Council
Lancashire Constabulary	Wyre Borough Council
Lancashire County Council	

*Changes to the Probation service will mean that their duty will be carried out by the National Probation Service and the local Community Rehabilitation Company.

Lancashire Community Safety Strategy Group (LCSSG) brings together representatives of these organisations responsible for setting the strategic direction and coordinating joint activity under a range of statutory duties. As set out in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, these 'responsible authorities' are required to work together to:

- Reduce crime and re-offending, tackle anti-social behaviour and substance misuse;
- Ensure information collection and sharing arrangements are in place to inform direction of services and develop a Community Safety Agreement (CSA) for Lancashire;

- Maintain good partnership working between organisations;
- Engage and consult communities on community safety issues; and,
- Have due regard for the strategies and priorities of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lancashire where appropriate.

This report sets out, at Appendix 'A', the Community Safety Agreement for 2014/16 which has been developed by the LCSSG in consultation with local partners. Local arrangements are recognised as crucial to the effective delivery of improved outcomes. A review of partnership working has been conducted to ensure that our Community Safety partnership delivery landscape is both lean and best able to make a difference moving forward. The outcome of this review is set out at Appendix 'B' within the Community Safety Agreement at Appendix 'A'. In order to formalise sign-up to the Community Safety Agreement, partner organisations will also consider the agreement as part of their respective decision making processes. As such, consideration should be given to using delegated powers to ensure the Agreement is a 'living' document and adapted as appropriate.

Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to:

- (i) Recommend that Full Council approves, in line with the County Council's Constitution, the Community Safety Agreement 2014/16 as set out at Appendix 'A';
- (ii) Recommend that Full Council delegates authority to the Cabinet Member for Adult and Community Services to make any subsequent amendments to the Community Safety Agreement; and
- (iii) Note the proposal that the Lancashire Chief Executives Group undertakes the function of the County Strategy Group and recommend that Full Council, as the responsible authority in legislation, approves the appointment of the members of the Lancashire Chief Executives Group as members of the County Strategy Group.

Background and Advice

The Community Safety Agreement (CSA) sets out partnership aspirations for the next two years and determines how organisations will demonstrate key outcomes across Lancashire by:

“Working together to make Lancashire a better place for this and future generations, where crime continually reduces, innovative and excellent practice is the norm, and fear of crime is not a constraint to daily life and investment”.

Whilst crimes rates have fallen in recent years and the challenges on the public sector have increased, community safety partners recognise the need to focus on early action to tackle the key issues that cause the most harm to children and young people, vulnerable adults and communities.

To do this, partners need not only to work together, but to ensure that the strengths and assets within our communities are utilised, and supported to manage challenges positively. In commissioning services, we must support this aim by seeking to deliver added social value.

Priority Issues

The table below sets out the priority issues identified in the CSA and the shared outcomes to be delivered through partnership activity:

Priority Issues	Contributory Factors	Shared Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-Social Behaviour & Hate Crime • Child Sexual Exploitation • Domestic Abuse • Road Safety • Violent Crime 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alcohol and Drugs • Reoffending • Interpersonal Violence • Health • Deprivation 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communities are more cohesive and resilient 2. Victims are supported and harm is reduced 3. Offending and re-offending are reduced 4. There are fewer first-time entrants into the youth justice system
Statutory Requirements		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Crime and anti-social behaviour continue to reduce 6. Criminality is targeted and disrupted
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serious Organised Crime • CONTEST and preventing extremism • Legislative changes • Consultation, Inspections, Domestic Homicide Reviews, and Serious Case Reviews 		

This Agreement acknowledges and reinforces the linkage with other local partnerships such as the Children’s Safeguarding Board, Children’s Trust arrangements, the Lancashire Criminal Justice Board and the Health and Wellbeing Boards.

A review of partnership working arrangements has been conducted to establish a streamlined and effective structure through which partners can collectively focus on delivering improved outcomes against priority issues. The structure can be found at Appendix 'B' of the Strategy. As part of the commitment to reduce the meeting burden and duplication of agendas, subject to Full Council approval, the Lancashire Chief Executives Group has taken on the function of county strategy group (Lancashire Community Safety Strategy Group).

At a local level district based Community Safety Partnerships (CSP's) are collaborating through three Area Community Safety Steering Groups in order to further refine joint working.

- North Area Community Safety Steering Group (Blackpool, Fylde, Lancaster, Wyre)
- East Area Community Safety Steering Group (Blackburn with Darwen, Burnley, Hyndburn, Pendle, Ribble Valley, Rossendale)
- South Area Community Safety Steering Group (Chorley, Preston, South Ribble, West Lancashire)

CSPs will be retained at local discretion and where partners agree.

The Community Safety Agreement is not intended to detail all of the partnership activities to be undertaken, the strategic outcomes are informed and shaped both by knowledge and experience of the work in this area. To deliver these improved outcomes, partner organisations will collaborate further to develop strategies, activities and projects that align with this Agreement.

Consultations

The CSA has been developed in collaboration with community safety partners over several months and has been endorsed by the Lancashire Community Safety Strategy Group.

The priorities have been informed by local priorities which are then aggregated to a county level and used to inform the strategic priorities to be addressed.

The CSA has also been informed by findings from a range of community consultation including the Living in Lancashire surveys, partner surveys, and service user consultation.

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Financial

This report relates to a high level strategic agreement between partners across Lancashire and has no direct financial funding commitments attached to it. The authority's financial commitment relating to the activities will be funded from existing and future funding envelopes and does not constitute an additional funding commitment.

Risk management

Crime and Disorder

The Community Safety Agreement 2014/16 fulfils the statutory obligations of community safety partners as set out below:

- To have a Strategy Group to formulate and implement a community safety plan for that area (in order to reduce crime and re-offending and tackle anti-social behaviour and substance misuse) with representation from responsible

authorities including police, local authorities, clinical commissioning groups, fire and rescue service and probation (replaced on 1 June 2014 by the national probation service and community rehabilitation companies).

- To produce a Strategic Assessment that includes evaluation of previous work and the findings from community consultation to inform development of the CSA.
- To have an agreed Information Sharing Protocol to assist the sharing of datasets including de-personalised data.
- To conduct a Domestic Homicide Review where it is determined that a qualifying case has occurred.
- To have regard for the priorities of the Police and Crime Commissioner.
- In two-tier areas to have a county-wide Strategy Group and a clear process for escalation of issues from a local level.

List of Background Papers

Paper	Date	Contact/Directorate/Tel
Lancashire Community Safety Agreement 2011/14	July 2011	Mel Ormesher, Directorate for Children and Young People, (01772) 580386

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A