

COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN 2015-16

Housing & Community Safety Advisory Board - Thursday 26 March 2015

Report of Chief Officer Communities and Business

Status: For Consideration

Also considered by: Cabinet – 16 April 2015

Key Decision: No

Executive Summary:

This report seeks approval for the 2015-2016 Community Safety Strategy and Action Plan. The plan responds to the community safety priorities identified in the most recent Strategic Assessment.

This report supports the Key Aims of delivering a low crime rate in the District and supporting vulnerable and repeat victims of crime and anti-social behaviour

Portfolio Holder Cllr. Michelle Lowe

Contact Officer(s) Kelly Webb x7474

Recommendation to Housing & Community Safety Advisory Committee: Members views are sought.

Recommendation to Cabinet: that the Community Safety Strategy & Action Plan for 2015-16 is approved.

Reason for recommendation: This Action Plan will determine multi-agency work undertaken in the District to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and increase feelings of safety.

Introduction and Background

- 1 The Crime & Disorder Act 1998 places a statutory responsibility on Sevenoaks District Council, Kent County Council, Kent Fire & Rescue Service, Health, Probation and Kent Police, together with other key partners, to undertake an audit of crime and disorder in the District and co-operate in the development and implementation of a strategy and action plan for tackling local crime and disorder.
- 2 The Strategic Assessment undertaken in November 2014 identified eight Community Safety priorities for the District, in no particular order, as follows:

- Anti-Social Behaviour (incl. environmental crime)
- Burglary (Burglary Other than Dwelling and Burglary Dwelling)
- Vehicle Crime (Theft Of Motor Vehicle and Theft From Motor Vehicle)
- Substance Misuse
- Young People's Issues
- Domestic Abuse
- Handling stolen goods (incl. Shoplifting)
- Road Safety

The Action Plan is monitored on a quarterly basis by the Community Safety Partnership, to ensure that actions are on target and are helping to meet the identified success measures.

- 3 The draft 2015-2016 Sevenoaks District Community Safety Strategy and Action Plan sets out Partnership activity aimed at addressing the above priorities.

Key Implications

Financial

- 4 The funding required to deliver the Action Plan comes from the Police and Crime Commissioner and SDC Core Budget from the core budget of participating agencies and other external funding sources as they become available. No additional District Council funding is required to deliver the plan.

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement.

- 5 There are no legal issues arising from this action plan.

Equality Assessment

- 6 Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people from different groups, and (iii) foster good relations between people from different groups. The decisions recommended through this report directly impact on end users. The impact has been analysed and does not vary between groups of people. The results of this analysis are set out immediately below.
- 7 There are no negative impacts – the action plan applies to all. The action plan seeks to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and improve feelings of safety. The action plan looks at 8 priorities that have been highlighted through the strategic assessment completed in November 2014. All victims of crime and anti-social behaviour are treated equally and fairly regardless of disability, age, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, marital or civil partnership, race, gender, carer status or religion and belief.

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults.

- 8 The Action Plan makes a positive contribute to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults in the District.

Resource (non financial)

- 9 The Action Plan will be delivered by the Council's Community Safety Team with partner agencies.

Sustainability Checklist

- 10 A sustainability checklist has been completed and a positive impact is anticipated.

Conclusions

- 11 The Community Safety Action Plan for 2015-16 sets out Community Safety priorities for the District based on an assessment of crime and disorder and a multi-agency action plan aimed at tackling those priorities. Partner agencies are accountable for their own actions within the Action Plan and are monitored by the Community Safety Partnership.

Appendices

Appendix

Draft Sevenoaks District 2015-2016
Community Safety Strategy and
Action Plan

Background Papers:

2014 Strategic Assessment of Crime and Disorder in
the Sevenoaks District

Lesley Bowles
Chief Officer Communities & Business