

Item 09 – Sevenoaks District Community Safety Partnership Strategy & Action Plan 2023-24

The attached report was considered by the People & Places Advisory Committee on 23 February 2023. The relevant Minute extract is below.

People & Places Advisory Committee (23 February 2023, Minute 45)

The Health & Communities Manager presented the report, which set out the 2023-24 Sevenoaks District Community Safety Strategy and Action Plan. The Strategy's seven priorities were built on the Strategic Assessment and local data from partner organisations. The Community Safety Unit would work alongside these priorities in day-to-day work, with dedicated actions to reduce, enforce, and educate around each priority. An example of this was the new task action group addressing Violence Against Women and Girls, which would work in tandem with the West Kent Domestic Abuse Forum to address the issue across West Kent.

Funding for 2023-24 from the Police and Crime Commission at the time of the meeting had not been confirmed. In previous years, the funding was roughly £35,000. The Strategy and Action Plan would be monitored on a quarterly basis.

In response to questions, she clarified that addressing fraud had become day-to-day work managed by the Community Safety Unit. She advised that this would be reviewed in the monitoring process. The Committee discussed the reduction in the number of PCSOs within the District and its potential effects. Dedicated roles, such as the Vulnerable Adults Officer, would be lost, but Rural PCSOs and neighbourhood taskforce PCSOs would remain. Work would be undertaken to ensure that the areas these roles targeted are not neglected in the new policing system. The Committee further discussed the Community Service Wardens and heard that the adverts for the positions remained open.

Resolved: That it be recommended to Cabinet that it be recommended to Council that the 2023-24 Sevenoaks District Community Safety Strategy and Action Plan be adopted.