



Report of Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board

Date: 10th March 2014

Subject: Strategic Partnership Boards – Update

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. The Scrutiny Board Procedure Rules state that all Scrutiny Boards will act as a “critical friend” to the relevant Strategic Partnership Board.
2. In March 2013, the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board received a report from the Safer and Stronger Communities Strategic Partnership Board setting out its strengths and potential areas for development in response to the following three key questions:
 - What contribution the Partnership Board is making to tackle poverty and inequality, and the progress being made against this
 - How successfully the Board’s partnership arrangements are working
 - To what extent are significant benefits being seen from partnership working? How has partnership working ensured increased pace of change to address the issue in hand?
3. A report summarising the Scrutiny Board’s observations and recommendations in relation to the Safer and Stronger Communities Board was then subsequently forwarded to the Partnership Board.
4. The Scrutiny Board’s report was initially discussed at a joint meeting of the Safer and Stronger Communities Board and the Stronger Communities Partnership on 24th May and a formal response to the Scrutiny recommendations was presented to the Scrutiny Board in September 2013.

5. As part of this response, it was highlighted that the Safer and Stronger Communities Board had agreed to explore reconfiguring the partnership arrangements for this Board, with a move towards a new Communities Board to drive forward the 'stronger' element of the agenda and more accurately reflect its role in delivering the strategic direction required for Leeds to become the best city for communities. In doing so, Safer Leeds would continue its role as the city's Community Safety Partnership.
6. The attached report provides a further update in relation to the recommendations made by the Scrutiny Board last year, with particular reference made to the development of the new Communities Strategic Partnership Board. Representatives from the Strategic Partnerships will also be attending today's meeting.

Recommendations

7. Members are asked to consider the attached update report and provide any further comments or observations to the relevant Strategic Partnership Boards.

Background papers¹

8. None

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.