

Report of Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to Scrutiny Board (Environment and Housing)

Date: 22nd March 2016

Subject: Neighbourhood Policing in Leeds, including the provision of Police Community Support Officers.

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. During the Scrutiny Board's meeting on 13th October 2015, Members discussed a number of community themed matters including the provision of Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) in Leeds. In conclusion, the Board agreed to undertake further Scrutiny of this matter and held a number of working group meetings with the Director of Environment Housing; Chief Officer for Community Safety; and the Leeds District Chief Superintendent to discuss the direction of travel for the funding and allocation of PCSOs funded by the Council within the context of the changing and evolving policing structures in Leeds District and across West Yorkshire Police.
2. At its meeting on 2nd February 2016, the Scrutiny Board acknowledged the intention of the Executive Board to consider proposed options for the provision of Council funded PCSOs at its meeting on 9th March 2016. However, at this stage the Leeds District Chief Superintendent explained that the 2016/17 policing budget for Leeds had not been finalised by the Police and Crime Commissioner and this was considered a fundamental factor as part of the Scrutiny Board's deliberations.
3. As such, the Scrutiny Board agreed to await the outcome of the Executive Board's deliberations, including confirmation of the 2016/17 policing budget for Leeds, with a view to using today's meeting to consider the role and deployment of neighbourhood policing in general across the city.

4. A copy of the Executive Board report on PCSOs, dated 9th March 2016, is attached for Members' information (see appendix 1) and the minutes of this meeting are also attached to this agenda as part of the work schedule item.
5. Also attached as appendix 2 is a report from the Director of Environment and Housing which provides an overview of Police staffing and rotas at a partnership working area level following the introduction of a new operating model on 15th February 2016.

Recommendation

6. Members are asked to consider the attached reports and identify any specific areas for further information and/or investigation.

Background documents¹

7. None used

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.