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**Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development**

**Report to the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board**

**Date: 16<sup>th</sup> May 2013**

**Subject: Draft Safer Leeds Strategy 2013-2014**

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|--|------------------------------|--|
| Are specific electoral Wards affected?<br>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?<br>If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number:<br>Appendix number: | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |

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**Summary of main issues**

1. As the city's Community Safety Partnership, Safer Leeds has a statutory requirement to prepare and implement a local Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy. This Strategy also forms part of the council's budget and policy framework. The Scrutiny Board is therefore invited to make any formal comments before the final draft is submitted to the Executive Board for recommendation to full council.
2. Following the introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners in November 2012, local Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategies are expected to have regard to the objectives set out in the Police and Crime Plan for the wider police area. In March 2013, the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner published the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan 2013-2018.
3. The draft Safer Leeds Strategy 2013-2014 is attached for Members' consideration (Appendix 1). The Safer Leeds Executive considered the draft Strategy during its meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2013 and so its views are reflected within the attached version.
4. The draft Strategy is due to be considered by the Executive Board at its meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> June before being presented to full Council for approval on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2013. Any comments from this Board will be reflected in the report to Executive Board in June.

**Recommendations**

5. Members are asked to comment on the draft Safer Leeds Strategy 2013-2014.

## **1 Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 The draft Safer Leeds Strategy 2013-2014 is attached to this report for Members' consideration (Appendix 1). As this Strategy forms part of the council's budget and policy framework, the Scrutiny Board is invited to make any formal comments on the draft Strategy before it is submitted to the Executive Board for recommendation to full council.
- 1.2 The Safer Leeds Executive considered the draft Strategy during its meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2013. Its views are therefore reflected within the attached version.

## **2 Background information**

- 2.1 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 replaced Police Authorities with Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs), and introduced Police and Crime Panels (PCPs) to scrutinise the decisions and actions of the PCCs and assist them in carrying out their functions.
- 2.2 In preparation for the introduction of an elected West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner, the Scrutiny Board was asked to provide support to the Safer Leeds Executive as it developed a Leeds Community Safety Business Plan outlining the city's priorities in relation to policing and crime reduction. The Scrutiny Board had undertaken this piece of work during August 2012 and the Business Plan was approved by the Safer Leeds Executive in September 2012.
- 2.3 On 15<sup>th</sup> November 2012, Mark Burns-Williamson was elected as the first West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner and will hold office for a period of 3.5 years to May 2016.
- 2.4 One of the key responsibilities of a PCC is to produce a five year Police and Crime Plan in liaison with their Chief Constable, based upon identified local priorities. There is also a statutory requirement for Community Safety Partnerships to prepare and implement a local Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy. In doing so, these local strategies are expected to have regard to the objectives set out in the Commissioners' Police and Crime Plan.
- 2.5 As part of the development of the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan, the PCC launched his 'Listening to You First' public consultation in November 2012. Linked to this, the Scrutiny Board noted that the Leeds Community Safety Business Plan had been used to inform the PCC of the city's aims and ambitions in relation to crime reduction and policing. The Scrutiny Board also acknowledged that this Business Plan would be further developed to become the city's Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy.

## **3 Main issues**

- 3.1 Local Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategies are expected to have regard to the objectives set out in the wider Police and Crime Plan produced by the PCC.
- 3.2 The West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel formally considered and commented on the draft Police and Crime Plan 2013-2018 during its meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2013. On

27<sup>th</sup> March 2013, the PCC published the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan 2013-2018. This is attached for Members' information (Appendix 2).

- 3.3 The local Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy also forms part of the council's budget and policy framework. As such, the draft Strategy is due to be considered by the Executive Board at its meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> June before being presented to full Council for approval on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2013. Any comments from the Scrutiny Board will be reflected in the report to Executive Board in June.

## **4 Corporate Considerations**

### **4.1 Consultation and Engagement**

- 4.1.1 Key partners such as West Yorkshire Police, Probation, Youth Offending Service and Criminal Justice service partners have already contributed and commented on the draft Safer Leeds Strategy 2013-2014 through the Safer Leeds Executive.
- 4.1.2 Representatives of the Safer Leeds Executive will be attending today's meeting to present the draft Strategy and address any further questions from Board Members. The West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner, Mr Burns-Williamson, has also been invited to contribute to the Board's discussion on the draft Strategy.

### **4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration**

- 4.2.1 The draft Safer Leeds Strategy 2013-2014 makes reference to the Safer Leeds Partnership's commitment to serve all members of its communities effectively and acknowledges that all of its actions and plans should give due regard to implications for different groups and sections of the community.

### **4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities**

- 4.3.1 The draft Safer Leeds Strategy 2013-2014 sets out the city's approach to reduce crime and disorder and deliver the city's ambition to be "the best city in the UK with the best community safety partnership and services." Linked to this, particular consideration is also given to the relevant priorities set out in the City Priority Plans.
- 4.3.2 The Safer Leeds Executive also has a statutory requirement to produce an annual Joint Strategic Assessment (JSA) to assess the scale and nature of crime and disorder in the city and to identify medium to long term issues affecting community safety. Such intelligence has therefore been used to inform the delivery plans that underpin the overarching Safer Leeds Strategy.

### **4.4 Resources and Value for Money**

- 4.4.1 In total, £5.29m has been allocated to the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner Community Safety Fund for 2013/14. The Leeds allocation has been confirmed at £1,927,045. Details of how such funding will be spent are set out in the attached draft Strategy. The Strategy also acknowledges that from 2014/15, the PCC intends to commission delivery of community safety, reducing re-offending and victim services directly.

## **4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In**

4.5.1 This report does not contain any exempt or confidential information.

## **4.6 Risk Management**

4.6.1 This section is not relevant to this report.

## **5 Conclusions**

5.1 As the city's Community Safety Partnership, Safer Leeds has a statutory requirement to prepare and implement a local Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy.

5.2 Following the introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners in November 2012, local Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategies are expected to have regard to the objectives set out in the Police and Crime Plan for the wider police area. In March 2013, the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner published the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan 2013-2018.

5.3 The draft Safer Leeds Strategy 2013-2014 is attached for Members' consideration (Appendix 1). The Safer Leeds Executive considered the draft Strategy during its meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2013 and so its views are reflected within the attached version.

5.4 As this Strategy also forms part of the council's budget and policy framework, the Scrutiny Board is invited to make any formal comments before the final draft is submitted to the Executive Board for recommendation to full council.

5.5 Representatives of the Safer Leeds Executive will be attending today's meeting to present the draft Strategy and address any further questions from Board Members. The West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner, Mr Burns-Williamson, has also been invited to contribute to the Board's discussion on the draft Strategy.

## **6 Recommendations**

6.1 Members are asked to comment on the draft Safer Leeds Strategy 2013-2014.

## **7 Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

7.1 None

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<sup>1</sup> 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.