

Report of : Director of Environments and Neighbourhoods

Report to : Inner North West Area Committee

Date: 15th December 2011

Subject: Developing a Locality Approach Between Leeds City Council Services and Neighbourhood Police Teams/Police Community Safety Officers (PCSOs)

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Arrangements will apply in all wards, initial examples are in the appendix of the report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input 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. Leeds has benefited from the work of Police Community Service Officers (PCSOs) for a number of years. The city currently has 324 PCSO working across the city. The PCSO service is funded from a number of sources including the West Yorkshire Police Authority (WYPA), Leeds City Council (LCC), the Hospital Trust, City Centre Markets, White Rose Shopping Centre, some Parish Councils and ALMOs.
2. Despite the huge budget pressures that the Council currently faces, it has maintained significant investment in the PSCOs service, and in April 2011 the Council agreed to extend the existing agreement with the WYPA to retain 170 PCSOs across Leeds. The funding provided by the Council amounts to just over £1.5m per annum, and provides a 30% contribution towards these posts.
3. The investment provided by the Council was awarded on the basis that work be undertaken this year to strengthen arrangements between PCSO's and Leeds City Council Services. In particular the aim is to support the delivery of locally identified

environmental priorities and assist in the delivery of service efficiencies and improved effectiveness.

4. The Council's Executive Board received a report on this in September. A protocol between the Council and the Police was then presented to the November meeting of the Safer Leeds Executive. Members of the Area Committee are asked to note the progress with arrangements for closer working and discuss local environmental priorities which need tackling through joint working.

Recommendations

5. The Area Committee is asked to:
 - 5.1. note the progress being made to develop more joined up working within localities between LCC services and Neighbourhood Police Teams/PCSOs.
 - 5.2. discuss proposed areas of closer working on local environmental priorities.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an overview of progress to develop more joined-up working arrangements between locality based City Council services and Neighbourhood Police Teams/PCSOs.

2 Background information

- 2.1 Working within local Neighbourhood Policing Teams, the main role of PCSOs is to contribute to the policing of neighbourhoods, primarily through highly visible patrols with the purpose of reassuring the public; tackling anti-social behaviour in public places; responding to concerns raised by residents and Elected Members; and being accessible to communities and partner agencies working at local level. This involves working with a range of local services including Youth Services, Schools, Environmental Services and ALMOs.
- 2.2 In 2008 Leeds City Council entered in to a three year contract with the West Yorkshire Police Authority for the provision of 170 PCSOs across the city. In April 2011, the Council agreed to extend this arrangement for a further year. The 2011/12 contract amounts to over £1.5m of additional policing within localities funded from Council budgets. The decision to continue funding was made despite a backdrop of significant cuts to Council budgets, coupled with the withdrawal of major grant programmes such as Safer and Stronger Communities Fund (SSCF). This demonstrates the commitment and investment that the Council has made in local policing for a number of years.
- 2.3 The deployment of PCSOs part funded by LCC are allocated on an equal 5 per ward basis across Leeds. West Yorkshire Police allocate their PCSO cohort across their Neighbourhood Policing Teams (NPTs), of which there are 17 in total across Leeds.

- 2.4 The designation of PCSOs is based on intelligence gathered from a range of sources including; hotspot locations for example burglary and ASB; information provided by the community and Elected Members; and data from the Council and other agencies.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 For a number of years, work has taken place within localities to develop closer working arrangements between local service providers and NPTs. The introduction of the new locality working arrangements have brought a sharper focus to how local services work and co-operate with one another on a daily basis in order to deliver better outcomes for local people.
- 3.2 There are already significant levels of co-operation. Children's Services, for example, work closely with the Police through the Safer Schools Initiative, within which the PCSO's play an important part. PCSO's often act as the "eyes and ears" within local areas, reporting on a range of issues, from anti social behaviour and truancy, through to matters of safeguarding.
- 3.3 Work this year seeks to build on the relationship across the Council, in a more systematic way, with particular emphasis on how the PCSO's can assist with improving the environment. The full Executive Board report contains more information about this and the protocol provided as an appendix provides more information about arrangements and current examples by Neighbourhood Police Team area. The Area Committees are asked to feed in their views on local environmental priorities at this early stage of development and to receive periodic monitoring reports about progress.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 West Yorkshire Police and Leeds City Council Services undertake regular consultation with residents through a wide range of means to assess local needs and priorities. The methods include community forums, PACT meetings, resident surveys, face to face meetings, local patrols and events, Area Committee meetings, newsletters and other media publications.
- 4.1.2 The tasking arrangements between LCC and WYP will be determined via consultation with local communities, elected members and through intelligence products produced by WYP, LCC and the Community Safety Partnership.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 Both LCC and WYP follow Equality procedures which ensure that their services are accessible to all the residents of Leeds. Services are developed and delivered in response to need and intelligence information, which aims to address inequality and improve lives.

4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

- 4.3.1 The development of more integrated and closer working between locality based services, will deliver improved outcomes for local people and is aligned with the

new Safer and Stronger Partnership's priority to 'Make Leeds an attractive place to live, where people are safe and feel safe, and the City is clean and welcoming.'

- 4.3.2 The delivery of the new tasking arrangements will also support the delivery of the Safer Leeds Plan, which aims to reduce crime and its impact across Leeds and effectively tackle and reduce anti-social behaviour in our communities.

4.4 Resources and value for money

- 4.4.1 The Council has committed over £1.5m in 2011/12 to support the continuation of the PCSO service across the city. Through the development and delivery of closer working between service providers, communities will benefit from the delivery of more joined up services, working together better to address identified local needs and deliver improved outcomes.
- 4.4.2 The integration of services should also deliver service efficiencies and improved effectiveness through a more focused approach to address problems, provide a better distribution of responsibility to deal with issues of concern, and improve ownership by individual services and organisations.
- 4.4.3 It is hoped that the protocols established between WYP and LCC, will deliver service efficiencies and provide better value for money, and that the delivery model can be replicated across the city in other partnership working arrangements.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

- 4.5.1 There are no legal implications connected with the contents of this report.

4.6 Risk Management

- 4.6.1 Risks will be managed by the regular tasking meetings in each area.

5 Recommendations

- 5.1 The Area Committee is asked to:
- 5.2 Note the progress made to develop more joined up working within localities between LCC services and Neighbourhood Police Teams/PCSOs
- 5.3 Discuss proposed areas of closer working on local environmental priorities which will be fed back to local tasking arrangements to progress

6 Background documents

- 6.1 Report to Executive Board September 2011
- 6.2 PCSO joint working case studies exercise – WYP June 2011
- 6.3 2011/12 PCSO contract between Leeds City Council and West Yorkshire Police

West North West Leeds

Key Contacts - Police – Chief Inspector Jim McNeill
Environmental Services – Jason Singh
Area Community Safety Coordinator – Zahid Butt (North West) Gill
Hunter (West)

All Neighbourhood Policing Teams

A number of multi agency crime and grime action days and initiatives are held across the Division, managed and organised through the Multi Agency Tasking Meetings. The PCSOs have a strong role in completing environmental audits to highlight environmental issues such as rubbish dumping, graffiti, areas where litter accumulates, etc. PCSOs also work with Community Payback teams to identify areas of work for Community Payback to deliver.

Woodhouse

A number of bin yards in the Little Woodhouse area were in such a state with refuse and fly tipping that they were unable to be used. The binyards have been cleared by Community Payback and PSCOs are now monitoring the yards as part of their duties and reporting incidents through to the Locality Team for potential further action.

Headingley

Environmental Services will be working with the PSCOs throughout the year to support the Councils Waste Strategy for inner North West Leeds including a number of communication campaigns over the whole year focused on improving crime and grime outcomes. As part of this approach the PCSO's will be supporting a targeted door to door exercise in the area this autumn aimed at sharing and emphasising key messages on: environmental cleanliness, presenting and pulling bins back into properties on bin collection days, personal safety and burglary prevention.

Adel & Wharfedale

Littering from Ralph Thoresby High School has been identified as a problem by local residents. The Locality Team has been working with PSCO's to arrange for the school children to do litter-picking in the area. The Locality Team will be developing this approach to school-based educational activity in the new year and will seek to work with PCSO's to support community engagement activity and local monitoring.

Bramley

Broadlea estate environmental audits with Bramley Housing Office.

Armley

Armley Burglary Reduction – Fortnightly environmental audits of the Little Scotland’s, Barden’s, Cedar’s and Aviary’s specifically working with partners (Police and Arson Task Force + ALMO).

Stop Search operation x 2. One at the Armley Gyratory and One at BHS in Kirkstall dates and planning is continuing, will be raised at next crime & grime.

Pudsey Town Centre

Tackling school children ASB, rowdy behaviour and littering.
Environmental audit of the town centre addressing commercial waste issues and “A” board project.

Thornbury

Leeds/Bradford border at Thornbury working with Bradford Police and Bradford Council to tackle metal theft, trade waste and travelling criminality . These are arranged quarterly .

City-wide

Generic priorities include reporting racist graffiti and needles immediately when discovered to avoid personal injury and undue stress to the community. These need to be reported direct to 0113 222 4406. The Council’s service standards stipulate that racist graffiti should be removed within 24 hours .

Any observations made on environmental offences such as fly tipping (e.g bulky items / bags / waste), general graffiti and excessive littering can be reported via email to :

eneaction@leeds.gov.uk North East and Inner East

sseaction@leeds.gov.uk South and Outer East

wnwaction@leeds.gov.uk West and North West