



Report of Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Report to the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board

Date: 10th September 2012

Subject: Development of the Leeds Community Safety Business Plan

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. In preparation for the introduction of an elected West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner in November 2012, the Executive Board Member for Neighbourhoods, Planning and Support Services asked the Scrutiny Board to work closely with the Safer Leeds Executive in developing a Leeds Community Safety Business Plan.
2. The Scrutiny Board agreed to undertake this piece of work as a matter of priority via working group meetings during July and August to ensure that the draft Plan is fit for purpose prior to it being formally approved by the Safer Leeds Executive in September 2012.
3. This work has now concluded and the attached draft report summarises the observations, conclusions and recommendations of the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board in relation to the draft Leeds Community Safety Business Plan. Members are asked to consider and agree the attached report. Once agreed, this report will be forwarded to the Safer Leeds Executive for consideration at its meeting on 13th September 2012.

Recommendations

4. Members are asked to consider and agree the attached draft report summarising the observations, conclusions and recommendations of the Scrutiny Board in relation to the draft Leeds Community Safety Business Plan.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To present the draft report summarising the observations, conclusions and recommendations of the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board in relation to the draft Leeds Community Safety Business Plan.

2 Background information

- 2.1 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 replaces police authorities with Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) and introduces Police and Crime Panels to scrutinise the decisions and actions of the PCCs and assist them in carrying out their functions.
- 2.2 A PCC will be elected for every police force area in England and Wales, outside London. The appointment of the PCC will be made through a public election, which will take place on 15th November 2012. Once elected, the PCC will hold office for a period of 4 years (3.5 years in relation to the first term).
- 2.3 PCCs will be responsible for setting out a five year Police and Crime Plan, in liaison with the Chief Constable, based upon identified local priorities. The PCC will then have the power to commission services and award grants to any organisation or body they consider will support the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan and the priorities outlined within it.
- 2.4 However, in order to minimise disruption, Ministers have decided that existing arrangements for community safety and partnership funding will continue during 2012-13. In 2013-14, in addition to the main police grant and precept, PCCs will also receive funding from the Community Safety Fund which will support local priorities which could include tackling drugs and crime, reducing re-offending and improving community safety.
- 2.5 PCCs are expected to provide strong local leadership, underpinned by their democratic mandate in the drive to reduce crime and keep communities safe. The government state that they will need to work with other local leaders to ensure local resources are used effectively and efficiently. A key message from the Home Office is that the PCC will be looking for police districts to work more collaboratively and to have shared outcomes.
- 2.6 In June 2012, the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board learned that the Safer Leeds Executive was in the process of developing a Leeds Community Safety Business Plan in preparation for the introduction of an elected West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner in November 2012. The Executive Board Member for Neighbourhoods, Planning and Support Services asked the Scrutiny Board to work closely with the Safer Leeds Executive to ensure that the Plan is fit for purpose prior to it being formally approved by the Safer Leeds Executive in September 2012.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 Local business plans, which set-out the local priorities, partnership structures, demographics, engagement arrangements and existing activities – successes and challenges etc..., are to be developed. These will be high level plans used to

articulate the community safety landscape for each of the districts to prospective PCC candidates and members of the public.

- 3.2 Once approved, the Leeds Community Safety Business Plan is to act as a template to provide a common framework for each of the West Yorkshire districts. It is expected that such high level issues will then feed in to the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Plan.

Scope and timetable for this piece of scrutiny work

- 3.3 The Scrutiny Board was asked to work with the Safer Leeds Executive to ensure that the Leeds Community Safety Business Plan accurately reflects local community safety priorities and demonstrates the effectiveness of the activity it wishes the PCC to support.
- 3.4 The Scrutiny Board agreed to undertake this piece of work as a matter of priority via working group meetings during July and August to which all Board Members would be invited to attend.
- 3.5 The timetable for undertaking this piece of scrutiny work is set out below.

Scrutiny working group meeting – session 1 - 17th July 2012

To consider and provide comment on the initial draft of the Leeds Community Safety Business Plan.

Safer Leeds Executive Meeting – 25th July 2012

To consider the initial draft of the Leeds Community Safety Business Plan. This will include verbal feedback of any issues raised during the scrutiny working group meeting.

Scrutiny working group meeting – session 2 – 14th August 2012

To receive the draft Leeds Community Safety Business Plan following initial consultation with Scrutiny and the Safer Leeds Executive and to identify any further recommendations.

Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board Meeting – 10th September 2012

To consider and agree a draft report summarising the observations, conclusions and recommendations of the Scrutiny Board in relation to the draft Leeds Community Safety Business Plan.

Safer Leeds Executive Meeting – 13th September 2012

To consider the report summarising the observations, conclusions and recommendations of the Scrutiny Board prior to formally approving the Leeds Community Safety Business Plan.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

4.1.1 In line with the timetable above, all Scrutiny Board Members were invited to attend working group meetings on 17th July 2012 and 14th August 2012 to consider the principles of the draft business plan and also the content of the plan nearing completion.

4.1.2 During these meetings, discussions were held with the Chief Officer for Community Safety and the Head of Community Safety Partnerships (Safer Leeds).

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

4.2.1 The draft Leeds Community Safety Business Plan 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 Scrutiny Board set out to ensure that the draft business plan accurately reflects local community safety priorities and demonstrates the effectiveness of the activity it wishes the Police and Crime Commissioner to support. Particular consideration was therefore given to the associated links with the relevant priorities set out with the City Priority Plans.

4.4 Resources and Value for Money

4.4.1 As mentioned above, PCCs will become responsible for setting out a five year Police and Crime Plan, in liaison with the Chief Constable, based upon identified local priorities. The PCC will then have the power to commission services and award grants to any organisation or body they consider will support the delivery of the Police and Crime Plan and the priorities outlined within it. The Leeds Community Safety Business Plan therefore aims to demonstrate the effectiveness of the activity it wishes the Police and Crime Commissioner to support.

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 The attached draft report summarises the observations, conclusions and recommendations of the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board in relation to the draft Leeds Community Safety Business Plan. Members are asked to consider and agree the attached report. Once agreed, this report will be forwarded to the Safer Leeds Executive for consideration at its meeting on 13th September 2012.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 Members are asked to consider and agree the attached draft report summarising the observations, conclusions and recommendations of the Scrutiny Board in relation to the draft Leeds Community Safety Business Plan.

7 Background documents¹

None.

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available for inspection on request for a period of four years following the date of the relevant meeting. Accordingly this list does not include documents containing exempt or confidential information, or any published works. Requests to inspect any background documents should be submitted to the report author.