



Leeds
CITY COUNCIL

scrutiny



**Environment, Housing
and Communities**

Scrutiny Statement
Safer Leeds Community Safety
Strategy 2018-2021



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Safer Leeds – Community Safety Strategy 2018- 2021

Introduction

1. There is a requirement, in accordance with the Constitution of Leeds City Council for the Scrutiny of the development of key policies which form part of the Council's Budget and Policy Framework. The Safer Leeds Community Safety Strategy 2018 - 2021 was considered by the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) on the 26 of July 2018.
2. The purpose of this report is to inform the Executive Board of the deliberations and conclusions of the Scrutiny Board in order to meet constitutional requirements and support the decision making process of the Executive Board.

Evidence and Information Considered

3. The Director of Environment and Communities submitted a report to the Scrutiny Board which outlined the reason for the strategy review, the funding arrangements to support the delivery of Safer Leeds partnership priorities and the level of consultation and engagement in shaping the draft strategy under consideration.
4. The draft Safer Leeds Community Safety Strategy 2018 – 2021 was appended to the report along with the Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration Screening report dated the 2nd of July 2018.
5. The following representatives were in attendance to participate in debate, provide information and to respond to Members questions and comments.

- James Rogers - Director of Communities and Environment
- Paul Money – Chief Officer, Safer Leeds
- Councillor D Coupar, Executive Member for Communities

6. We were advised that the revised draft strategy is not intended to be prescriptive and limiting. This would enable the various Boards established, to better support the Safer Leeds Executive by responding to emerging issues through their workteams.

Deliberations and Conclusions

Road Safety and Vehicular Anti-Social Behaviour

7. When considering the draft strategy we highlighted the strength of concern expressed across our communities regarding road casualty reduction, the enforcement of speed limits and vehicular related anti-social behaviour on our estates.
8. Following discussion we are satisfied that structures and partnerships are in place to strengthen the necessary focus on these issues, through the Anti-Social Behaviour Board and the links between West Yorkshire Police, Neighbourhood Policing Teams and the Safer Leeds Partnership.
9. Whilst accepting that the draft strategy is not intended to be prescriptive, we consider that the priority for combatting speeding and reckless driving, including the anti-social use of vehicles, such as



Safer Leeds – Community Safety Strategy 2018- 2021

quad and off-road bikes, should have greater prominence within the draft strategy. We also expressed the importance of clearly communicating this priority to those responsible for providing support directly within our communities, particularly the highly valued Neighbourhood Policing Teams.

10. We welcomed the suggestion from the Executive Board Member for Communities, to progress this priority on a local level through the Community Committee, Community Safety Champions.

Operational Delivery Boards.

11. We identified that the strategy does not identify or provide a link to information which defines the responsibilities of each Operational Delivery Board, or their specific objectives with regard to delivering outcomes and priorities for the Safer Leeds Executive. We therefore concluded that this clarification would be beneficial for all interested parties.

Early Education and Pupil Safety

12. We highlighted the importance of education at an early age to prevent offending, with particular emphasis on sexual harassment reduction through education. We were reassured that ongoing work is being undertaken with Children and Families Services, Leeds Safeguarding Children's Partnership and directly with schools, on a number of safeguarding areas including reducing sexual harassment. We consider that there is scope for the strategy to reflect early prevention through the partnership

arrangements that exist to educate and support children and young people.

Recommendation

The Executive Board is recommended to note the deliberations and conclusions of the Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities) when considering the Safer Leeds Community Safety Strategy 2018-2021.

**Scrutiny Board (Environment, Housing and Communities)
Statement for the Executive Board – Safer Leeds Community Safety Strategy
3 October 2018**