

TITLE OF REPORT: Community Safety Board Partnership Plan 2017/18

REPORT OF: Paul Dowling, Strategic Director, Communities & Environment

Purpose of the Report

1. This report asks Cabinet to endorse the Community Safety Board Partnership Plan 2017/18.

Background

2. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a statutory duty on Community Safety Partnerships to produce a strategic assessment and partnership plan. The strategic assessment is a detailed analysis of the key crime, disorder and substance misuse issues in Gateshead in order to assist in identifying community safety priorities. Following a statutory consultation process the Community Safety Board is required to produce a partnership plan which highlights community safety activity in the preceding 12 months and sets out how the Community Safety Board will address the strategic priorities in the forthcoming year.

Proposal

4. Cabinet is asked to endorse the Community Safety Board Partnership Plan 2017/18.
5. A copy of the Community Safety Board Partnership Plan 2017/18 is attached. The document will be made available on the Community Safety page of the Gateshead Council website and will be promoted by the statutory partners of the Community Safety Board.

Recommendations

6. It is recommended that Cabinet endorses the Community Safety Board Partnership Plan 2017/18 for the following reasons:

To introduce the priorities for 2017/18 for the Community Safety Board

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Policy Context

1. The proposals support Vision 2030 and the Council's Corporate Plan particularly Live Well Gateshead – A healthy, inclusive and nurturing place for all.

Strategic Themes and Priorities

2. The tenth Strategic Assessment was completed in December 2016 and identified four broad strategic themes and a number of priorities for the Community Safety Board to address in 2017/18.
3. This year, in order to reinvigorate the strategic assessment process and to capture partners' views more effectively, Community Safety Board members agreed that a new innovative process should be trialled.
4. The Management of Risk Management in Law Enforcement, or MoRiLE, is a new process that uses a range of elements to define harm and risk, and measures this against partners' capacity and capability to respond to an issue. MoRiLE is, therefore, an interactive and collaborative approach to producing the Strategic Assessment. As there are a number of shared characteristics between Gateshead and Newcastle, the development of this year's Strategic Assessment was a joint process with colleagues from Safe Newcastle. This will also make joint working between the two areas easier in future, where appropriate or necessary.
5. Gateshead is one of the first Community Safety Partnerships in England and Wales to use this process. It has been used to help police forces across the country develop their own Strategic Assessments, but it is not currently widely used within Community Safety Partnerships. By adopting this process at such an early stage, Gateshead's experiences of using MoRiLE can be fed into the national project team which will help shape its future development.
6. The Assessment identified similar issues and problems to that found in previous years and showed that the activity undertaken by Community Safety partners remained appropriate and relevant.
7. The strategic themes identified for 2017/18 are:
 - Tackling Violence
 - Combatting Anti-Social Behaviour
 - Addressing Substance Misuse
 - Improving Public Confidence

Theme 1: Tackling Violence

The key priorities that will be addressed under this theme are:

- Violent Crime
- Domestic Abuse
- Sexual Abuse

Theme 2: Combatting Anti-Social Behaviour

The key priorities that will be addressed under this theme are:

- Youth and adult-related ASB

- Prevent Violent Extremism and Radicalisation
- Hate Crime
- High Demand Locations – identified through Problem Solving
- Community Tensions

Theme 3: Addressing Substance Misuse

The key priorities that will be addressed under this theme are:

- Drugs (including Novel Psychoactive Substances)
- Alcohol
- Drug-related Deaths

Theme 4: Improving Public Confidence

The key priorities that will be addressed under this theme are:

- Improving Community Confidence in Services
- Community Cohesion and Engagement

Consultation

8. Public consultation is a statutory requirement in the development of strategic priorities (as set out in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998). The draft priorities were presented to members of the Community Safety Board (including a Health and Wellbeing Board representative), relevant Portfolios, a number of resident and community groups as well as members of the public (via Gateshead Council's residents' panel, ViewPoint Online).
9. In addition, presentations have been delivered to the Diversity Forum and all Community Safety Sub-Groups as well as information being sent to services and officers linked with delivering the community safety agenda within Gateshead.
10. The public response to the consultation has exceeded expectations. There were 679 responses received, of which 34% gave a priority weight to violent crime (including domestic and sexual abuse). Conversely, fewer respondents (15%) felt that the 'improving public confidence' theme was a priority. Yet, environmental issues (such as fly-tipping, graffiti, dog-fouling and speeding) were identified as key concerns, all of which are visible incidents which directly impact on feelings of safety and perceptions of Council/Police to tackle issues.
11. In order to capture the views of members of the BME community, the Community Safety Board commissioned a voluntary and community sector organisation to carry out several focus groups on its behalf.

Partnership Plan 2017/18

12. The draft Partnership Plan has been included at appendix 2 and provides the headline details of some activity that has been undertaken over the last 12 months to keep residents safe.
13. It highlights a range of landscape/context issues that will impact on the Community Safety Board, as well as a list of potential outcomes and/or performance measures that will be achieved. This year, a section has also been included which sets out specific activity and actions linked with each of the strategic themes and priorities, as well as details of the demand on Community Safety services within the Borough.

14. The strategic priorities and partnership plan were agreed at the Community Safety Board in April 2017, and the Partnership Plan is to be made publically available via the Community Safety page of the Gateshead Council website and via partner agencies.

Alternative Options

15. There are no alternative options available to the Council.

Implications of Recommended Option

16. **Resources:**
 - a) **Financial Implications** – There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. Activities in support of the plan will be met from existing resources or from seeking external funding opportunities.
 - b) **Human Resources Implications** – There are no human resource implications in this report.
 - c) **Property Implications** – There are no property implications in this report.
17. **Risk Management Implication** – There are no risk management implications in this report.
18. **Equality and Diversity Implications** – There are no equality and diversity implications directly arising from this report. Hate crime is one of the strategic priorities which will address issues faced by those who are protected under the nine protected characteristics of The Equality Act 2010.
19. **Crime and Disorder Implications** – The Partnership Plan is instrumental in tackling crime and disorder.
20. **Health Implications** – The Partnership Plan and the priorities set out within it will help address and improve the health and wellbeing of Gateshead residents.
21. **Sustainability Implications** – There are no direct sustainability issues within this report.
22. **Human Rights Implications** – The Partnership Plan is compliant with Article 8 of the Human Rights Act – the right to respect for private and family life.
23. **Area and Ward Implications** – The Partnership Plan covers all areas and wards throughout Gateshead.