
REPORT TO:	Community Services Committee	AGENDA ITEM: 17
DATE OF MEETING:	11 April 2002	CATEGORY: DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	Head of Community Services	OPEN
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	Stuart Batchelor (5820)	DOC: c:\myfiles\pmw\commserv\communityservicescommittee\reports\11-04-02\crime&disorderstrategyupdatesb.doc
SUBJECT:	Crime and Disorder Strategy Update	REF: SB/MLC
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	All	TERMS OF REFERENCE: CS07

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 Accept and recommend to Council the approval of the South Derbyshire Crime and Disorder Partnership 2002-5 Crime and Disorder Strategy.
- 1.2 Appoint Member to Communication and Community Engagement Action Team.

2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 To advise Members on the progress of the Crime and Disorder Partnership including the publication of the three-year strategy, partnership funding and creation of a new action team.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 The South Derbyshire Crime and Disorder Audit, published in October 2001, contained a comprehensive audit of recorded information from organisations that enabled a proper assessment to be made of crime trends and disorder over the previous three years. The Audit also included findings from a number of surveys undertaken with local people. These included a Citizens Panel of 792 people, a rural crime survey of 2385 people and a Youth Needs Survey completed by 932 young people.
- 3.2 The Audit process also included a consideration of the Strategies of other organisations to ensure that whenever possible organisations were working in a co-ordinated manner and not duplicating resources or missing the chance to work in partnership.
- 3.3 Strategies considered included the Derbyshire Constabulary Policing Plan, Home Office Crime Reduction Plan, Youth Justice Plan, Derbyshire Drug Action Team, Southern Derbyshire and Derbyshire Dales Health Improvement Plan and Tackling Drugs to Build a Better Britain Strategy.
- 3.4 Following the publication of the Audit the local community were asked what their views were on crime in South Derbyshire. This consultation took several forms: the

distribution of 5000 Audit leaflets across the district, South Derbyshire Council for Voluntary service organised a number of public meetings around the district and contacted specific groups such as the disabled, ethnic minorities and travellers, and formal discussion with organisations in the Partnership. The outcomes from this extensive consultation process confirmed the selection of the priorities for the Strategy and provided valuable information to be used in the Partnerships work over the next three years. In addition to the local consultation work, a recent MORI poll found those members of the public when asked "what makes somewhere a good place to live" identified that "low levels of the crime" was the most important factor (56%). The next highest factors were health services at 39%, affordable decent housing at 37%, shopping facilities at 28% and public transport at 27%.

- 3.5 The Audit and the consultation process have led to the identification of the priorities for the 2002 – 2005 Crime and Disorder Strategy. The priorities are House Burglary, Motor Vehicle Crime, Violent Crime (including assault, robbery and sexual offences), Anti-social Behaviour (including criminal damage and disorder), Substance Misuse and the Fear of Crime. Underpinning these priorities are several key issues, they are; "community engagement", persistent offenders, drug treatment services and information exchange. These issues will be dealt with throughout the work of the Partnership.
- 3.6 In addition to the Strategy, a Year 1 Action Plan has been written. The Action Plan sets out the key initiatives to be addressed under each Priority. Six dedicated Action Teams will be responsible for gathering data, writing reports and making recommendations for the delivery of the initiatives. The Action Teams will also be accountable for producing future action plans.
- 3.7 The Chairperson of each Action Team is also represented on the Strategic Group, whereby facilitating effective communication throughout the Partnership. The Chairperson is also accountable for the Action Teams performance.
- 3.8 As Members are aware the Strategy was launched on 26 March at the Bretby Conference Centre as part of a conference on Crime Reduction in South Derbyshire.

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 The Partnership budget, which is held by the authority, contains £21,000 at present. This is made up of contributions from the Police and the District Council. Added to this resource is the £71,400 Community Against Drugs fund and the partnership provided posts of Community Safety Officer, Analyst and Police Liaison Officer. Confirmation is being sought on Home Office funding which last year was £10,000.
- 4.2 The £21,000 will be used to fund administrative support plus projects which will attract partnership funding from Derbyshire County Council who have set aside a project fund of £200,000, and other sources. A further report is provided to the Committee on proposed projects.

5.0 Corporate Implications

- 5.1 The publication of the Strategy and Action Plan meets the Councils statutory duty as a member of a Crime and Disorder Partnership and its delivery will contribute to achieving many of the Councils objectives contained within the Corporate Plan.

6.0 Community Implications

6.1 The Partnership has prioritised a number of crimes for reduction over the next three years but also will work hard to reduce the fear of crime so that local communities feel safe in and around their homes. This process will involve local people by getting them involved in protecting their property, that of their neighbours and developing a working relationship with the police and other organisations to reduce crime.

7.0 Conclusions

7.1 The work of the Crime and Disorder Partnership has already started to contribute to making South Derbyshire a safer place to live, work, play and visit and the combined funding of the partners will ensure that this contribution is increasingly effective.

8.0 Background Papers

7.2 Crime and Disorder Files CD1 – 16.

