REPORT TO:

Housing and Community Services

AGENDA ITEM:

7

DATE OF MEETING:

9 February 2006

Committee

CATEGORY: DELEGATED

REPORT FROM:

Director of Community Services

OPEN

MEMBERS'

Sue Haslett

DOC:

CONTACT POINT:

Ext 5924

SUBJECT:

Safer Neighbourhoods Project -

REF:

Consultation

WARD(S)
AFFECTED:

All wards

TERMS OF

REFERENCE: HCS07

1.0 Recommendations

1.1 Members support the development of Safer Neighbourhoods in South Derbyshire and provide their comments for the consideration of the Safer South Derbyshire Partnership.

2.0 Purpose of Report

2.1 To inform Members of the Safer Neighbourhoods project plan and to seek their support for its establishment and their comments on its development.

3.0 Detail

<u>Background</u>

- 3.1 Neighbourhood Policing was officially launched in the Home Office document 'Building Communities -Beating Crime' (March 2004) which outlined a clear change in the direction of the Police Service, moving away from a predominately reactive approach towards a pro-active problem solving style of Policing, working in partnership with local communities and other agencies.
- 3.2 The core role of the police remains that of preventing, detecting and reducing crime, but the new model of Neighbourhood Policing is also aimed at reassuring the public, reducing the fear of crime and creating neighbourhoods that are safe and feel safe.
- 3.3 To achieve these aims Neighbourhood Policing has to deliver the following:
 - Dedicated and accountable resources with geographical ownership
 - Intelligence led targeting of issues that matter most to the public
 - Joint action by Police, partner agencies and the public.

Proposals

- 3.4 Derby Police Basic Command Unit has been designated a Pathfinder BCU by the Home Office for Neighbourhood Policing (Safer Neighbourhoods). It is essential that the Police and partner agencies develop a shared vision of the development of such a scheme.
- 3.5 Fortunately South Derbyshire has for a number of years been ahead of the game as regards Partnership working and many links are already in place and will only require fine-tuning to address the proposed agenda. The new structure is aimed at involving the local community in identifying local problems and the group being tasked to address them using a multi agency approach and involving the community in the solutions.
- 3.6 The National Intelligence Model (NIM) will be used to identify hotspots, targets and other local and district wide issues. The structure will also need to address the Public Service Agreement 2 (PSA 2) targets set by the County Council as highlighted in the Safer South Derbyshire Partnership Strategy.
- 3.7 The new structure will mean a significant change in how the Police and Safer South Derbyshire Partnership will engage with community groups and in particular Parish Councils and Local Crime Reduction Groups.

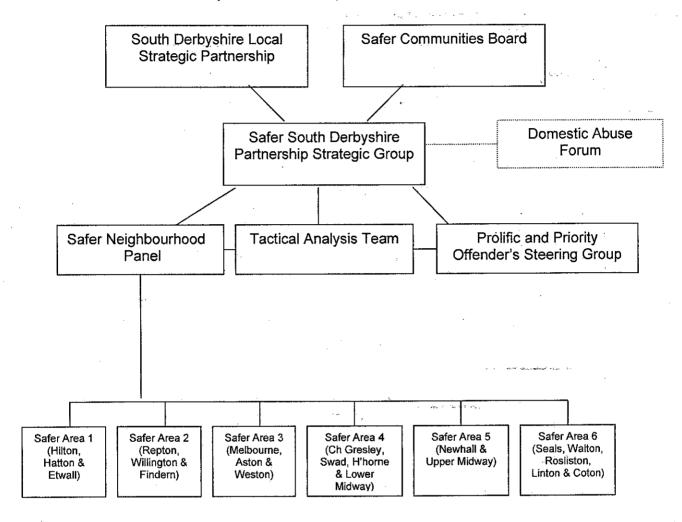
Key components of the proposed model are -

- Safer Neighbourhood Teams will consist of both uniformed and non-uniformed personnel. The dedicated uniformed presence in the Areas will include Police Beat Officers, Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs), Special Constabulary and Safer Neighbourhood Wardens when in place.
- The Safer South Derbyshire Partnership will support the development of the new model with the provision of officer support and access to the resources of the Youth Engagement Through Sport scheme.
- The Strategic overview of the Safer Neighbourhoods model will be the responsibility of the Strategic Group of the Safer South Derbyshire Partnership.
- The structure proposed to manage the model will ensure a coordinated approach to the needs and concerns of South Derbyshire residents prioritising local issues and identifying trends across the District.
- It is realised that neighbourhoods have differing levels of crime, anti-social behaviour, drug misuse and fear of crime and that interventions in some areas may need to be more intensive. However all areas will receive a high quality of service.
- It is recognised that the format of the meetings and the composition of the groups will change as the new structure develops and best practice is identified.
- The defined Safer Neighbourhood Areas have been identified using a combination of Council Wards, Police Beats, community links and Police calls for service. Consideration has also been given to the staffing levels available to the Police to provide a dedicated team in sufficient numbers. Areas as currently identified are not set in stone and may be fine tuned as the process develops.

 The involvement of elected members in the Area Groups is essential to the success of the new scheme.

3.8 Structure

3.8.1 The delivery of 'Safer Neighbourhoods' as it is called in Derbyshire is to be led by the Safer South Derbyshire Partnership and will be structured as follows: -



A map of the Safer Areas is shown at Appendix 1.

- 3.8.2 The <u>Safer South Derbyshire Partnership Strategic Group</u> will consist of the existing members of the Group and also the Chairs of the Safer Area Groups. It will continue to meet on a quarterly basis.
- 3.8.3 The Tactical Analysis Team will consist of the following members: -

Head of Leisure & Comm' Dev Anti Social Behaviour Officer Community Safety Officer Safer Neighbourhoods Officers (2) County Community Safety Officer Section Inspector Section Det/Inspector Police Liaison Sergeant Partnership Analyst

The Partnership's action teams will not exist in their current form. The Tactical Analysis Team will be responsible for problem solving/ targeting crimes and antisocial behaviour in specific areas. The involvement of partner agencies will be maintained through the joint delivery of initiatives and projects as identified by this

Team and the Safer Area Groups. The Tactical Analysis Team will also perform a performance management role in relation to achieving the targets within the 2005/08 Crime and Disorder Strategy. It will meet initially on a quarterly basis.

- 3.8.4 The <u>Prolific and Priority Offenders Steering Group</u> will consist of the existing members of the Group. It will continue to meet on a monthly basis.
- 3.8.5 The Safer Neighbourhood Panel would ideally consist of the following members: -

Partnership Chair
Anti Social Behaviour Officer
Community Safety Officer
Safer Neighbourhoods Officers (2)
Sports & Youth Dev' Manager
Head of Environmental Services
CVS Chief Executive

Section Inspector
Police Liaison Sergeant
Beat Sergeant
Beat Managers (6 areas)
Head of Leisure & Comm' Dev
District Youth Manager

The Panel will be responsible for coordinating and managing the overall Safer Neighbourhoods programme. It will meet on a quarterly basis.

3.8.6 The Safer Area Groups will consist of some or all of the following: -

Beat Manager(s)
Police Community Support Officer
Safer Neighbourhood Warden
Safer Neighbourhoods Officer
Neighbourhood Watch
Local Business's
Community Sports Coach

County Councillor
District Councillor (rep)
Parish Councillor (rep)
Beat Sergeant
Youth Worker
Environmental Health Officer
Tenant Liaison Officer

The Chairs of these Groups may sit on the Safer South Derbyshire Partnership Strategic Group. The Safer Area Groups will meet on a monthly basis encouraging as much community involvement as possible. They will identify local issues that will be tasked for problem solving to the appropriate agency represented on the Group.

3.8.7 In terms of the support provided to the Safer Area Groups, it will consist of the following per Area: -

Beat Manager (s)
Safer Neighbourhoods Officer
Police Community Support Officers (when appointed, ideally 2)
Special Constables (3)
Safer Neighbourhood Warden
Neighbourhood Watch Volunteers

This team will meet on a weekly/bi weekly basis. Street briefing sessions, delivered by the Beat Sergeant and co-ordinated by the Beat Manager, will also be held on a monthly basis.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 A successful application has been made to Derbyshire Constabulary for £2000. This needs to be spent before the end of the 2005/06 financial year and will secure room bookings for community based Safer Area meetings.

4:2 At present there is no further budget for the delivery of Safer Neighbourhoods. However, if Service Development Bids are successful, a working budget will be established which would fund administration, campaigns and projects. This would also mean that the restructure of the Support Team would be possible.

5.0 Corporate Implications

- 5.1 The delivery of the Safer Neighbourhoods project within the District will contribute to achieving many of the Councils objectives contained within the Corporate Plan 2006/09.
- 5.2 It will support the delivery of the Safe Communities action plan within the Community Strategy and will also contribute towards achieving the targets within the Crime and Disorder Strategy 2005/08.

6.0 Community Implications

- 6.1 The aim of Safer Neighbourhoods is to improve public confidence by working with local people to identify and deal with issues that most affect their daily lives.
- 6.2 The local community can expect more visible and accessible police. Residents should also see and have regular contact with the same officers. There will be more effective ways of identifying and responding to what local people see as priorities. Local people who are closest to the problems in their communities are often best placed to help shape and participate in the solutions to them there should be real opportunities for them to do so.
- 6.3 The local community should know who is responsible for what in terms of reducing crime, tackling anti-social behaviour and keeping the areas where they live and work safe. Safer Neighbourhoods will clarify and strengthen existing arrangements. In this way the police, and their partners, including SDDC, who are responsible for making neighbourhoods safe can be held effectively to account for their performance in doing so.

7.0 Conclusions

- 7.1 The Safer Neighbourhoods initiative aims to achieve "the Right People, at the Right Places, in the Right Numbers, in order to create neighbourhoods that are safe and feel safe."
- 7.2 It requires the support and commitment of a wide range of agencies including the District Council, as well as the engagement of the local community.

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