

report



meeting OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

date 19 March 2007

agenda item number

Report of the Service Director, Community Safety, Regeneration and Protection

Crime Reduction

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Overview and Scrutiny with an introductory report and associated presentation to begin the Scrutiny Review on Crime Reduction.

2. INFORMATION AND ADVICE

- 2.1 The attached presentation is intended to provide the essential background information for Members and to provide an update on with recent developments, which will have a bearing on their findings.
- 2.2 The presentation will:
- Provide an overview of the current position in Nottinghamshire
 - Look at the community safety structures and processes we operate within
 - Outline the County Council contribution to crime reduction
 - Consider crime statistics and performance issues
 - Outline suggestions for future meetings
- 2.3 In addition to the presentation, the County Council Safer Communities Strategy document will be distributed at the the Committee meeting, together with a more detailed statistical and mapping pack, to provide more detail for Members in their scrutiny role.

2.4 Issues which the Panel might like to consider at future meetings could include:

- The County Council is involved in community safety as part of its community leadership responsibility and in line with its statutory duties under the 1998 Act. Reducing crime and the fear of crime is one of the primary objectives in the Community Strategy and our Strategic Plan. However, the effective delivery of a crime reduction strategy depends very much on action by a range of agencies, notably the police. Our role has been one of pulling partners together strategically, supporting local work through the CDRPs, and funding specific initiatives. How well does the County Council discharge its strategic role?
- The BVPIs reflect crime levels and may not be a good measure for our performance (as evidenced by the results of the Best Value Review in 2003). LAA targets provide a better reflection of the breadth and effectiveness of our work. How can we best measure our performance?
- In many ways the BVPIs give a context for our community safety work. Historically, reported crime figures in Nottinghamshire are higher than elsewhere. What is the reality of crime in Nottinghamshire - are we really different?
- The Safer Communities budget enables us to fund a wide range of work tackling crime and anti-social behaviour. How effective are the projects we are funding?

3. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

3.1 That the report is noted.

3.2 That Overview and Scrutiny Committee decide on the future programme for the Crime Reduction review, so that key individuals and agencies can be invited to attend and contribute to the process, thus providing the essential multi-agency and partnership perspective.

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Background Papers Available for Inspection

Nil