

**REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL****SAFER NOTTINGHAMSHIRE BOARD UPDATE****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of the report is to provide an update on the work of the Safer Nottinghamshire Board so the Policy Committee can consider whether there are any actions they subsequently require, including those relating to reporting arrangements.

**Information**

2. Since the Scarman Report in 1981, successive governments recognised that effective partnership working resulted in better crime reduction outcomes. This was consolidated by the Morgan Report in 1991, and culminated in the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act.
3. Section 5 of this Act established community safety partnerships (then known as 'crime and disorder reduction partnerships, CDRP's, in England but formally renamed Community Safety Partnerships in 2010).
4. Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) are an alliance of organisations which generate strategies and policies, implement actions and interventions concerning crime and disorder within their partnership area. They are statutorily responsible for reducing crime and disorder, substance misuse and re-offending in each local authority area. Over time however it became clear that some areas could achieve more through amalgamating CSPs, as has happened in the Gedling, Broxtowe and Rushcliffe areas, which now works together as the formally merged South Nottinghamshire CSP, or by working more collaborative as has happened in Mansfield and Ashfield and also Bassetlaw and Newark and Sherwood.
5. In November 2004 the Government announced a review of the partnership provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 in the police reform White Paper - *Building Communities, Beating Crime*. The review was conducted to reflect the changes to partnership working since Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) were first created in 1998. As a result of the review, legislative changes were brought in by the Police and Justice Act 2006 and subsequent regulations came in to force in August 2007.
6. In two-tier areas the regulations require a county-level group to be established. This is referred to in the legislation as a 'County Strategy Group' and known in Nottinghamshire as the Safer Nottinghamshire Board. This Board is chaired by the County Council's Chief Executive.

7. Within the regulations it is the partnership's responsibility to prepare and implement a Community Safety Agreement. A new Community Safety Agreement for Nottinghamshire is currently being developed for implementation from April 2019. The regulations state that the Agreement must identify:
  - The county-wide community safety priorities that arise from the strategic assessment and that require escalating to the county level.
  - Ways of co-ordinating activity across the county to address priorities.
  - How the responsible authorities might otherwise contribute to reducing crime, disorder and substance misuse through closer joint working across the county.
8. The Responsible Authorities outlined in the legislation are:- Nottinghamshire Police, District and Borough Councils, Nottinghamshire County Council, Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service and the Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and Rutland Community Rehabilitation Company.
9. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 introduced elected Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) for each police force area outside of London. The first elections took place in November 2012 with successful candidates standing for a minimum term of four years. PCCs are responsible for developing a Police and Crime Plan (PCP) for their local area and for commissioning community safety and criminal justice services.
10. The Safer Nottinghamshire Board, in producing the Community Safety Agreement, and the PCC, in producing the PCP, have a duty under the legislation to have due regard to each other's plans.
11. The vision for the Safer Nottinghamshire Board is:-

“Working together to enable and support communities that are safe, healthy, confident and thriving”
12. The key role of this Board is to provide leadership and set the strategic direction for community safety in Nottinghamshire. In doing this four key approaches are adopted and promoted:
  - Prevention
  - Early intervention
  - Community engagement and confidence
  - Place focus
13. To inform the current set of priorities for the Board a Strategic Risk Assessment was undertaken which identified the “threat, risk and harm” to the community safety landscape in the County. This assessment identified seven priorities that represented areas of concern where the Board considered there were key gaps in knowledge, understanding and service provision.
14. The current strategic priorities, together with mitigating actions, are detailed in the tables below:

Strategic Priorities and Mitigating Actions	
<p><b>Priorities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People with multiple and complex needs</li> <li>• Modern slavery/human trafficking</li> <li>• Domestic abuse</li> <li>• New and emerging communities</li> <li>• Hate crime</li> <li>• Youth crime reduction</li> <li>• Crime in rural areas</li> </ul>	<p><b>Mitigating Actions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appoint Champions</li> <li>• Scoping and mapping</li> <li>• Clear governance</li> <li>• Defined action plan and communications plan</li> <li>• Identify good practice approaches</li> <li>• Identify joint working opportunities</li> <li>• Funding/resource opportunities</li> <li>• Strengthen engagement with CSPs</li> </ul>

15. Each year the PCC provides a grant to the Safer Nottinghamshire Board. For 2018-2019 the grant amount was £625,118. £50,000 of this funding was ring-fenced for an Independent Domestic Violence Advocate to work with the Integrated Offender Management programme, £270,750 has been made available to CSPs as an investment in neighbourhood working and the remaining £304,368 is discretionary funding which must be aligned to the wider strategic work of the Board and the Police and Crime Plan priorities. Currently the focus of the Board is on looking for further, and better, opportunities for collaborative working between partners mainstream provision to achieve improved community safety outcomes.

16. A key activity in the Board's work to provide better support to people with multiple and complex needs who are not eligible for statutory services, is the investment in specific workers with backgrounds in substance misuse, homelessness and mental health. There is a Complex Needs Worker in each CSP area who links with a multi-agency panel arrangement to enable more effective care coordination and access to services to take place. These workers are funded through the PCC with a small contribution from the County Council, and the Borough Councils in South Nottinghamshire. Gathering an evidence base to secure more sustainable resourcing is a key part of this project work. This work assists in achieving the commitment in the Council Plan 2017-2021 Your Nottinghamshire, Your Future to protect our most vulnerable residents.

17. Modern Slavery is a relatively new area of focus for the Safer Nottinghamshire Board but has gained increasing attention and profile at a local, national and international level. In order to stimulate and co-ordinate local activity, a City and County-wide partnership was established around 18 months ago which brings together a wide range of representatives including Nottinghamshire Police, the County Council, the City Council, the Salvation Army, Gang Masters and Labour Abuse Authority and representatives from the CSPs.

18. Over the past year, the key objectives for the partnership have been to:-

- Raise awareness of the reality and consequences of modern slavery through the delivery of training to some 800 front-line practitioners;

- Strengthen identification of, and support to, victims
  - Disrupt the plans and activities of perpetrators and hold them to account
  - Put in place governance arrangements that enable effective links at strategic and operational levels.
19. The work in relation to Domestic Abuse has included the delivery of 25 educational initiatives in targeted schools across the County, also promotion and educational awareness campaigns to promote the available support services. There has also been training provided for staff from core agencies to chair the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences where high risk cases of domestic abuse are discussed.
20. To inform the work of the New and Emerging Communities priority theme group Nottingham Trent University has been commissioned to research the lived experiences of people in Nottinghamshire who have come from the eight countries that joined the European Union during its 2004 enlargement, and other 'new' refugee communities. They will be considering experiences of integration, connectedness, criminal victimisation, perceptions of and access to public services and cohesion. The findings from this research will inform the further activities for this priority theme area going forward.
21. Continuing to improve the partnership response to supporting victims, preventing Hate Crime and raising public awareness are key activities featuring in the action plan for the Hate Crime priority theme group. This includes specific campaigns relating to Misogyny Hate Crime and Disability Hate Crime.
22. £109,000 of the PCC grant to the Safer Nottinghamshire Board contributes to the delivery of the County Council's Youth Justice Service. This contribution allows the Youth Justice Service to continue to provide a robust crime prevention offer with an aim of keeping the first time entrant to the criminal justice system rate equal or below the national average. This is achieved through packages of interventions with young people with complex needs as well as programmes of diversionary activities targeted in areas where there are groups of young people at risk of offending or antisocial behaviour.
23. Rural crime can mean any crime committed in a rural area, or certain types of crime that are much more common in rural areas, such as agricultural machinery and livestock theft. There is currently no nationally agreed definition. However the Safer Nottinghamshire Board priority theme group for rural crime considers both these definitions in setting its actions. The successful Horse Watch scheme that is operating in the Newark and Sherwood area will be expanded and there will be further rural crime events, including the Barn Tour. Building on the success of previous events held, including those by the Country Landowners Association and the National Farmers Union, further events will be delivered across the county. Together with partners, Nottinghamshire Police will advise landowners, farmers and rural businesses on recent activity, what is being done to address this and what people can do to help themselves, and each other.
24. In 2018-2019 the Safer Nottinghamshire Board will be working with CSPs to pilot new approaches which will inform the development of the next Nottinghamshire Community Safety Agreement. A new approach to identifying target neighbourhoods has been agreed, which takes into consideration crime volume and recognises that some crimes cause more harm to individuals, and society, than others. These are weighted accordingly.
25. For all the identified focus areas a robust problem profile will be developed that will enable partners to better understand what is happening in this location, and why. Being able to identify the entrenched challenges that lead to community safety issues occurring will inform

the development of more effective responses, and provide an evidence base to lever in essential wider partners.

26. From this enhanced evidence base and the arising activities, a better informed, more robust Community Safety Agreement for Nottinghamshire can be developed for implementation from April 2019. This Agreement should also strengthen the relationship between CSPs and the Board as there will be clarity as to how the work of the Safer Nottinghamshire Board impacts outcomes at neighbourhood level, and also how the CSPs influence and inform the work of the Board.
27. These actions to further strengthen the Board will mean the partnership is better placed to support the commitment in the Council Plan 2017-2021 Your Nottinghamshire, Your Future for people to live in vibrant and supportive communities. In addition commitment 7 of the plan pledges to work in partnership with other organisations to protect communities from crime and antisocial behaviour so that people can be more confident about their safety.
28. To ensure that the Safer Nottinghamshire Board can deal holistically with the underlying causes of crime, and to undertake the role of strategic lead the Board must be integrated into, and a key player in “the Nottinghamshire Public Realm”. To achieve this key linkages have been made with the following public body entities:
- Health and Wellbeing Board (including Clinical Commissioning Groups)
  - Adults Safeguarding Board
  - Children’s Safeguarding Board
  - Nottingham Crime and Drugs Partnership
  - Economic Prosperity Committee
29. Finally, a vital part of the partnership development work will be agreeing effective performance management and reporting arrangements to ensure clarity as to both actual crime levels and feelings of safety and what impact the Board is really making on these.

### **Other Options Considered**

30. The Safer Nottinghamshire Board was reviewed in 2015. This review concluded that the SNB remained the most appropriate way to fulfil the partnership duties in respect of community safety.

### **Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

31. To provide the Policy Committee with information on the Safer Nottinghamshire Board and to raise awareness of current development activity.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

32. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

## **Crime and Disorder Implications**

33. The work of the Safer Nottinghamshire Board is driven by legislation to reduce crime and disorder across the County area.

## **Data Protection and Information Governance**

34. No issues.

## **Financial Implications**

35. There are no specific financial implications from the recommendations of this report.

## **Human Resources Implications**

36. The Charing and programme management of the Safer Nottingham Board are provided by Nottinghamshire County Council.

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

It is recommended:

- 1) That the Policy Committee consider whether there are any actions they require in relation to the issues contained within the report;
- 2) That the Policy Committee agrees to receive annual reports on the work of the Safer Nottinghamshire Board, with the next report focussing on the Community Safety Agreement.

**ANTHONY MAY**

**Chief Executive of the County Council**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:** Vicky Cropley, Safer Nottinghamshire Board Programme Manager ext. 72040

## **Constitutional Comments [CEH 25.06.18]**

37. The recommendations fall within the delegation to Policy Committee under its terms of reference.

## **Financial Comments [CSB 22/06/2018]**

38. There are no specific financial implications arising directly from this report.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local

Government Act 1972.

- Police and Crime Plan 2018 - 2021 – available online at:
- <https://www.nottinghamshire.pcc.police.uk/Document-Library/Public-Information/Police-and-Crime-Plan/New-Plan-2018-2021/Police-and-Crime-Plan-2018-2021.pdf>
- Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Assessment 2017 – available online at:  
<https://www.nottinghamshire.pcc.police.uk/Document-Library/Public-Information/Newsletters-and-Publications/Publications/Nottinghamshire-Police-and-Crime-Needs-Assessment-2017.pdf>

**Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

- All