



meeting **OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

date 16 February 2009

agenda item number

Report of Service Director, Community Safety, Resilience and Protection

Update on the Community Safety Change Programme

1. Purpose of the report

1.1 At the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 15th September 2008 it was agreed that a further report would be tabled in February 2009 to enable the Committee to consider the progress made so far in relation to the Change Programme and to provide an opportunity to meet formally with the Director of Change. It was also agreed that a further report focusing on performance would be brought before the Committee in Autumn 2009.

2. Background to the Change Programme

2.1 The overall purpose of the change programme is to develop a community safety partnership structure across the county that leads to the delivery of improved community safety outcomes for local communities. A Director of Change has been appointed for 12 months to lead this process.

2.2 A Change Steering Group was established which outlined what success would look like early in the programme. In summary it was agreed that that a successful Nottinghamshire partnership would deliver:

- Improved outcomes in crime and disorder, substance misuse, confidence and community cohesion for local communities
- A strong performance management culture based on high quality strategic assessments and analysis of performance and intelligence
- Strong strategic leadership from the Safer Nottinghamshire Board (SNB)
- Strong delivery structures at county level and Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) level
- Effective engagement and partnerships with local communities
- A common understanding of effective practice
- Integrated use of resources

- Effective marketing and communication activity to increase community confidence
 - A partnership learning and development plan.
- 2.3 The change programme was therefore designed around five key projects, which also cover the hallmarks for effective partnership working as outlined by the Home Office:
- Leadership
 - Performance and Intelligence
 - Delivery and outcomes
 - Accountability
 - Resources.

3. Project Progress to Date

Leadership

3.1 Key achievements are:

- CDRP strategic groups established
- Safer Nottinghamshire Board and Executive Group established
- SNB capacity building programme underway to clarify roles and responsibilities
- Nottinghamshire three year community safety agreement agreed and signed off
- Community safety agreement identifies county priorities and outlines the county strategic community safety plan.
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Performance and intelligence

3.2 Key achievements are:

- Some improvement in performance
- Analytical performance report on crime and disorder agreed
- Analytical performance report on substance misuse agreed
- Analytical performance report on youth crime and re-offending nearly agreed
- Developmental work on cohesion and confidence underway
- County and CDRP strategic assessments completed to timescales
- All CDRPs now have analyst posts established
- Agreement to appoint Partnership strategic analyst

- Review of Jupiter in Nottinghamshire (JIN) underway
- Review of options for integrated county analytical arrangements commissioned
- Review of CDRP performance management arrangements near completion
- Information sharing protocol nearly completed.

Delivery and outcomes

3.3 Key achievements are:

- New rationalised county delivery structure finalised
- CDRP delivery structures consolidated
- Effective practice seminars
- County delivery plans for crime, disorder, and substance misuse underway
- Some improved outcomes
- SNB Burglary seminar
- Ashfield change programme.

Accountability

3.4 Key achievements are:

- Marketing and communication strategy completed
- Engagement strategy completed and in process of implementation
- SNB capacity building programme.

Resources

3.5 Key achievements are:

- Increase in team resources at Nottinghamshire County Council and some CDRPS
- Skills and knowledge audit near completion
- Early work on scoping of financial resources.

4. The County Council's Contribution to the Change Programme

4.1 Leadership

Achieved:

- County Council Portfolio Holder for Community Safety & Partnerships currently chair of SNB

- Enhanced County Council representation on SNB through Chief Executive and Corporate Directors for Communities and Children & Young People
- County Council represented on the new SNB Executive Group and are Lead Officers for two of the five strategic groups
- Head of Safer and Stronger Communities in post. Postholder represents the County Council on the CDRP Strategic Groups and has bi-monthly programmed meetings with Chief Executive
- Positive contribution to the Partnership Support Programme (PSP)
- Secondment of a Station Officer (Fire and Rescue Service) into the Communities Department to improve partnership working.

Next Steps:

- Establish a corporate group for community safety to lead the Council's delivery of its contribution to the County Community Safety Strategy and CDRP Strategies to promote awareness, address corporate issues and share good practice
- Enhance awareness with elected members on community safety issues through briefings and training in 2009
- Work with the Safer Nottinghamshire Partnership, Nottingham City Council and the Nottingham Crime and Drugs Partnership to provide leadership on and develop the Community Cohesion agenda.

4.2 Performance and Intelligence

Achieved:

- Supported the review of collection and analysis of performance data including the JIN Team
- Contributed to the countywide strategic assessment
- Weeks of Action evaluation completed February 2009
- Analyst posts established in each CDRP – half-funded by County Council
- Comprehensive information sharing protocol and guidance at final draft stage.

Next Steps:

- Senior Strategic Analyst post in Safer and Stronger Communities currently being Hay-graded prior to advert
- Mainstream work for completion of annual strategic assessment at county level
- Lead and support the implementation of the recommendations of the SNB reviews of analytical capacity and requirements.

4.3 Delivery and Outcomes

Achieved:

- Strengthened Safer Communities Team now: directly supporting CDRPs in terms of prioritised themes and performance management; working effectively with the Nottingham Crime and Drugs Partnership; providing partnership leads and specialist expertise in functional areas; leading on partnership response to consultation documents; leading on development of Partnership-wide community safety plans; dedicated support to each CDRP
- Framework documents developed for key priorities (acquisitive crime, violent crime, domestic violence and anti social behaviour) to support local delivery and ensure direct linkage with Local Area Agreement.

Next Steps:

- Work across County Council to develop strategies and action plans to support community safety e.g. youth crime prevention action plan
- Undertake high profile and quick win projects to raise awareness of partnership efforts e.g. domestic burglary, theft from vehicles.

4.4 Accountability

Achieved:

- Ongoing work to publicise achievements and improve media engagement to raise community confidence
- Section 17 audit started within Children and Young People's Department to identify the level and range of departmental commitment to community safety and areas for development
- Pilot community television initiative to start February 2009 to promote key messages and raise confidence.

Next steps:

- Participate effectively in the Safer Nottinghamshire Partnership marketing and communications strategy
- Provide ongoing series of articles for "In Contact" newspaper
- Complete Section 17 audit across the County Council, identify good practice, gaps which need addressing and ensure robust linkages with SNB.

4.5 Resources

Achieved:

- Two new, experienced community safety officers appointed to Safer Communities Team

- County Council provided dedicated budget (£200,000) for the Safer Nottinghamshire Board's Crime and Disorder Delivery Group to commission initiatives
- County Council supported establishment of analyst posts in each CDRP (£60,000).
- Resources agreed for Senior Strategic Analyst.

Next steps:

- Restructure Safer Communities budget for 2009/10 and onwards to align with the key priorities outlined in the community safety agreement 2008-11
- Ongoing Section 17 audit to identify corporate commitment to community safety.

5. Community Safety Partnership Response

5.1 The Community Safety Partnerships have also responded positively to the PSP Review and the Change Programme.

5.2 Ashfield

- New strategic/delivery/performance management structures and processes established within the partnership
- Community safety team strengthened (anti social behaviour officer, domestic violence officer)
- Partnership analyst appointed
- Local Change Manager engaged for six months to drive improvements and ensure they are embedded.

5.3 Bassetlaw/Newark and Sherwood

- Consultancy support engaged to develop merged partnership
- New strategic/delivery/performance management structures and processes established
- Two new community safety officers appointed, one for each district
- Partnership analyst post established, appointment process underway.

5.4 Mansfield

- New strategic/delivery/ performance management structures and processes established
- Partnership analyst appointed
- Community Safety Manager appointed.

5.5 South Nottinghamshire

- New strategic/delivery/performance management structures and processes established
- Partnership analyst in post and producing high quality analytical products
- Formal merger of the three boroughs into the South Nottinghamshire Community Safety Partnership has now taken place.

6. Performance Update

6.1 In order to provide a brief update on performance, the executive summary of the third quarter performance report for the Safer Nottinghamshire Board is attached as Appendix A. Highlights of this report are:

- There has been deterioration in performance in each category of *Serious Acquisitive Crime*. The County is unlikely to meet the reduction target but should still see a reduction on 2007/08 levels. This performance trend is in line with the latest national picture on crime and is likely to be linked to the impact of the economic downturn.
- The County is unlikely to meet the reduction target set for *Assault with Less Serious Injury* due to changes in the counting rules.
- *Anti social behaviour* - the boroughs within the South Nottinghamshire Community Safety Partnership are predicting a year end reduction in anti-social behaviour.
- *All Crime* - Ashfield and Newark & Sherwood are the only Districts showing an increase in All Crime compared to last year.

7 Recommendations

7.1 That the report is noted.

7.2 That a full performance report for Nottinghamshire and the individual CDRPs is brought to Overview and Scrutiny Committee in Autumn 2009.

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Background Papers Available for Inspection

None.

Electoral Division(s) Affected

All Electoral Divisions

SAFER NOTTINGHAMSHIRE BOARD

Crime & Disorder Delivery Group

Quarter 3

Performance Report

Period Covered:

Section 1

Executive Summary of key issues and risks

Serious Acquisitive Crime

There has been deterioration in performance in each category within this group of crimes. The County is unlikely to meet the reduction target but should still see a reduction on 2007/8 levels.

Dwelling Burglary is the main area of concern within this group, particularly Mansfield and Bassetlaw Districts. Both have seen a month on month increase in the last quarter and the increase is of statistical significance.

Historical performance shows that dwelling burglary levels generally peak in January and then show a downward turn in February and March.

Autocrime continues to show a considerable reduction of 14% on last year but this is 2% less than the reduction reported in Quarter 2. This crime category has shown a continual reduction over the last few years with December showing the lowest levels, reducing to a level of statistical significance. Ashfield is still showing an increase on last year, but crime levels have fallen quite dramatically since July. Newark showed a reduction in Autocrime in the Quarter 2 report, but is now showing an increase on last year. This is mainly due to a peak in crime in November, measured against low levels last November. The district is now showing a downturn in Autocrime levels.

Robbery is still showing a slight reduction on last year, but performance has deteriorated since the last report. Robbery of Personal Property has reduced but the main increase has been seen in Robbery of Business Property. Crime levels in this category are relatively small and any change can cause a considerable percentage change.

Assault with Injury

The County is unlikely to meet the reduction target set in this category due to changes in the counting rules. The increase in these offences is being balanced by a reduction in Common Assault and Violent Crime as a whole remains at the same level as last year. Ashfield and Newark & Sherwood are showing an increase in overall Violent Crime which does warrant further research. These districts are also showing increases in the more serious violent crimes and, although actual numbers are relatively low further research is required to establish any cause for this increase.

Anti-Social Behaviour & Criminal Damage

Levels of Anti-Social Behaviour historically reduce during the winter months and increase from January to March. It is likely that this trend will be repeated. Ashfield is the only district to see a year on year increase in Criminal Damage and currently accounts for 22% of the County's offences in this category. The districts within the South Notts CDRP are the only ones predicting a year end reduction in anti-social behaviour.

All Crime

Ashfield and Newark & Sherwood are the only Districts showing an increase in All Crime compared to last year, although Ashfield's performance has improved since the last report.

There is an increase of concern in relation to Indecent Assaults and Rape of Females, although relatively small in number. This increase does warrant further research.

Recommendations for action

- Resources should be directed towards reducing Dwelling Burglary, particularly in Mansfield and Bassetlaw and the ward areas with persistently high dwelling burglary levels. Further research should be carried out to establish whether these particular areas suffer high levels of insecure burglaries or repeat victimisation, as these would require different tactics to address the problem.
- Further research is required into the increase in overall Violent Crime on Ashfield and Newark & Sherwood Districts.
- Further research is required into the year on year increase in Criminal Damage on Ashfield.
- Further research is required into the increase in Indecent Assaults and Rape of Females.

SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCE AGAINST TARGETS

Performance Indicator	Q3 Target (Cumulative)	Q3 Actual (Cumulative)	%+/- Target	Trend	Page
NI 16 – Serious acquisitive crime rate per 1000 of population	14.9 (11457 offences)	14.95 (11500 offences)	0.40%	▼ Crime has increased each Qtr during the YTD	
NI 17 – Perceptions of ASB					
NI 20 – Assault with injury crime rate per 1000 of population	5.41 (4161 offences)	6.09 (4685 offences)	12.60%	▲ Crime has reduced compared to the previous Qtr	
NI 32 – Repeat incidents of DV					
NI34 – Domestic violence - murder					

Indicators to Monitor

Performance Indicator	YTD 2007- Actual	YTD 2008-9 Actual	% Change	Trend	Page
NI 15 – Serious violent crime	224	243	8.5%	▼ Crime has increased compared to the last Qtr	
NI28 – Serious knife crime rate					
NI29 – Gun crime rate					
NI 33 – Arson incidents	534	454	-15%	▲ Crime has reduced compared to the last Qtr	
NI 47 – People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents	123 (490 - 2008 target)				

KEY

	Significant improvement required (>5% off target)	▲	Improvement in performance compared to previous Qtrs
	Progress made, but further work required (<5% off target)	▼	Decline in performance compared to previous Qtrs
	Good progress made and likely to achieve target	●	No change in performance compared to previous Qtrs