

<b>Title:</b>	Joint Community Safety Delivery Unit
<b>Author(s):</b>	Tom Scanlon: Director of Public Health: Brighton & Hove City Council
<b>Purpose/Key Messages:</b>	To update the BHSP about proposals to bring together neighbourhood policing and relevant council services under one delivery unit
<b>Significance to BHSP</b>	Community safety is a key priority for the Partnership. Further integration is a key development in the delivery of community safety services
<b>What is BHSP being asked to do?</b>	BHSP is asked to note the development of the proposals
<b>Next steps and report back mechanism</b>	The Community Safety Partnership will provide updates to BHSP regarding progress

### **1. Summary & Policy Context**

The purpose of this report is to update the Partnership of the pilot initiative which from April this year, brought together neighbourhood policing with the Anti-social Behaviour, Hate Crime, Environment Improvement and Communities Against Drugs Teams under a single delivery unit. The pilot builds on existing established partnership arrangements embedded in the Partnership Community Safety Team. The pilot involves some joint management of staff between the police and the council who deliver the city wide community safety outcomes as set out in the Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2011- 2014.

The Partnership Community Safety Team delivers the statutory requirements for the council which are set out in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The new integrated delivery unit aims to increase the effectiveness of police and community safety services to the public and outcomes achieved. The first phase began in April 2012. An interim review is to take place in December and a full review will be undertaken in March and April next year.

In addition to these changes, the Family Intervention Project is now at the core of the new Stronger Families Stronger Communities initiative and aims to work with 657 of the city's most troubled families over the three year life of the project.

Processes are also under way, to reshape the strategic and commissioning functions which currently support the full range of statutory and related functions that are required of the Community Safety Partnership, including those which relate to substance misuse, and all other priority crime areas. Discussions about those future arrangements are taking place with partners, in particular with police, probation and the Director of Public Health.

The new arrangements will provide a robust framework for community safety services and the Partnership on which to base future arrangements for the establishment of Police & Crime Panels and the Police & Crime Commissioner for Sussex.

## **2. Recommendations**

That BHSP notes the progress made in establishing a pilot of the joint integrated delivery of neighbourhood policing and those front line community safety services as set out in this report. The BHSP is also asked to note that a further report will be brought back to a forthcoming meeting, following the full review of the pilot initiative.

## **3. Relevant Background Information/Chronology of Key Events**

### **Background**

Brighton and Hove has benefited from a Partnership Community Safety Team (PCST) since 2002 when it was established as a development from the Anti Victimisation Initiative. The Team has developed since then and as well as fulfilling the statutory and related duties on behalf of the Community Safety Partnership, also delivers front line services from premises at 162 North Street, Bartholomew House and Ovest House.

The PCST and Community Safety Partnership working arrangements are set out in the city wide, Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2011 – 2014. The Strategy and the crime reduction priorities that are identified within it are based on strategic assessments and community consultation which are refreshed annually. The process enables the Community Safety Commissioner to co-ordinate prioritised community safety services by partner agencies across the city in accordance with the following aims:

- Reducing crime and anti-social behaviour, especially around issues that matter most to local people
- Improving feelings of safety and meeting the needs of victims of crime
- Tackling the underlying causes of offending
- Reducing the harm caused by drugs and alcohol
- Taking early action to prevent and design out crime
- Reducing re-offending and achieving visible justice, (including by the use of restorative justice and community payback)

Besides delivering the statutory and related duties on behalf of the Community Safety Partnership, the Team provides the following community safety services directly to the public:

- Anti-social Behaviour and Hate Crime casework including enforcement and legal remedies where appropriate
- Domestic violence services for both victims and perpetrators
- Engagement and capacity building with communities in neighbourhoods and with communities of interest: the work includes delivery of the 'Building Resilience to Violent Extremism ('Prevent') programme, contributing to monitoring of tensions and risk assessments and supporting migrant and refugee communities
- Increasing physical safety through improvements to the physical environment and working with local people to develop solutions to their concerns
- Reducing drug related harm within families and communities through a Communities Against Drugs programme

### **Opportunity for Change**

In many instances, there are shared responsibilities between police and council services in achieving community safety. The most effective solutions for the individual and communities come when those solutions are delivered in an integrated way. The Police and Council already have well established shared management arrangements for the PCST. The pilot initiative has built on those strengths and relationships extending them into all areas of community safety and neighbourhood policing.

Neighbourhood Policing has been subjected to considerable development and enhancement over the past five years and has recently been the subject of the Sussex Police Neighbourhood Policing Review. The review contains recommendations that aim to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of neighbourhood policing.

The local delivery of public services is currently undergoing change in a number of areas and these offer opportunities to achieve improved outcomes particularly for Community Safety Partnerships. They are:

- Easily accessible services and clear service standards for communities and victims
- The further development of a 'localism' approach
- The developing Intelligent Commissioning approach
- Integrated Offender Management, particularly for high profile offenders
- A risk assessed, harm based approach in dealing with incidents.
- Wider statutory, regulatory and licensing powers across the workforce thereby increasing community protection
- Increased community engagement and empowerment
- Restorative approaches to increase victim satisfaction and deal more effectively with perpetrators
- Work with the most "troubled families" and families at risk of multiple disadvantage that reflects considerable change within the spheres of adult and children's social care

### **Overview of the pilot Joint Delivery Unit**

As a first step towards responding to the opportunities afforded above, the pilot Joint Delivery Unit includes the following areas of community safety services:

- A unified Community Action Team which incorporates the current Environmental Improvement and Communities Against Drugs Teams. The Team work in neighbourhoods day to day, responding to residents' safety concerns and building family and community capacity to help develop and implement creative solutions to safety problems. The Team also facilitates and supports the LGBT community led Forum.
- A Casework Team which deals with hate crime, anti-social behaviour and incidents including those experienced by people with disabilities; the Team also leads the development of good practice across the city to effectively risk assess and manage high risk cases and links with Adult Safeguarding procedures.
- A Neighbourhood Policing Team, 62 police officers and 74 PCSOs working in teams in neighbourhoods with one nominated officer responsible for community safety services and policing in each ward.

### **Accountability and Tasking**

The sources for determining day to day operations for the JCSDU are ;

- Information and intelligence from residents and the public drawn from reports made to both or either, the police or council services
- Emerging operational priorities based on intelligence (as above) and risk assessments
- Identified opportunities to build the resilience of communities and develop sustainable community safety solutions (follow on from successful enforcement)
- Commissioning priorities agreed by the Community Safety Partnership
- Priorities within the Sussex and Brighton & Hove Policing and Crime Plans
- Priorities within the Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2011 – 2014
- Priorities recommended from the Brighton and Hove Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

Team managers including NPT Inspectors for the three areas are accountable to the Delivery Unit manager. Operations will have a designated lead officer and the aim is that in order to increase effectiveness, police and council staff will be briefed together. Longer term strategic priorities will be identified and progress monitored.

Governance and accountability arrangements for the future are yet to be confirmed, however in developing those new arrangements, full consideration will be given to the benefits of the current consultative arrangements of the Community Safety Forum, Local Action Teams, other community led Forums and any new developments for Neighbourhood Panels.

The relationship with the appointed Policing and Crime Commissioner and Panel continues to be in process of development. Meetings are taking place with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner East and West Sussex authorities to take forward developing arrangements.

### **Benefits to the Public**

The aim is to improve service delivery to the public through:

- A single 'Safe In the City' brand which provides clear accountability for shared responsibilities
- Improved reporting arrangements, intelligence gathering, analytical products, performance and outcome performance monitoring and feedback
- Improved targeting of police and council 'fast time' enforcement and operational responses which are integrated at the point of delivery together with planned, sustainable

interventions which increase community safety and future resilience to crime and disorder

- Enhanced availability of specialist support teams interventions
- Increased capacity of neighbourhood police and community safety services: the increased capacity will come from pooled resources and a workforce that is better skilled across a broader range of interventions
- Integrated approach to delivery of casework against agreed standards
- Consistent delivery of neighbourhood policing and community safety responses which are integrated with principles and best practice arrangements of community engagement and neighbourhood management
- Increased value for money in neighbourhood police and community safety services

#### **4. Community Engagement & Consultation**

The Community Safety Forum has been advised of the proposals within the context of discussions about the further integration of services at the point of delivery and increasing the effectiveness and sustainability of community safety and crime reduction solutions. The proposals have been welcomed by Forum members.

#### **5. Financial & Other Implications**

##### Financial Implications:

The Community Safety budget supported by the Council is £2.1 million. The neighbourhood policing of Brighton & Hove has a staffing budget of £6 million. The changes proposed will be achieved within existing resources. It is anticipated that increased service capacity will be achieved as a result of the joint approach. Budget accountability will remain separate until the new governance arrangements are in place for the joint unit and the implications and risk associated with integrated arrangements are assessed.

*Finance Officer Consulted:* Anne Silley  
*Date:* 14/01/12

##### Legal Implications:

The proposals in this report are within the Council's wellbeing powers under the Local Government Act 2000 and other general powers. As part of the development of the detailed working arrangements, consideration continues to be given as to whether any part of the Council's existing scheme of delegations to officers needs amending.

At this stage, no such changes have been necessary. Were that to be the case, consequential amendments will be reported to the Cabinet for approval.

*Lawyer Consulted:*

*Abraham Ghebre-Ghiorghis*

*Date:*

*18/01/12*

Equalities Implications:

The integration of Neighbourhood policing with the Partnership Community Safety Team will provide specific opportunities for extending good practice in dealing with hate crimes and increasing trust and confidence with BME and LGBT communities and people with disabilities.