

Title of meeting: Cabinet

Date of meeting: 5th November 2015

Subject: Community Safety Priorities 2016/17 (Conclusions from the Safer Portsmouth Partnership Strategic Assessment)

Report by: Director of Regulatory Services, Troubled Families and Community Safety

Wards affected: All

Key decision: No

Full Council decision: No

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 The Safer Portsmouth Partnership (SPP) is the statutory community safety partnership for Portsmouth, chaired by the Executive Member for Environment and Community Safety, Cllr Rob New. The SPP is required by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to produce an annual strategic assessment of crime, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and reoffending. This assessment provides a summary of research and analysis to identify strategic priorities for the coming year (2016/17).
- 1.2 The strategic assessment informs the Safer Portsmouth Partnership's updated crime reduction strategy which will be presented at Cabinet and full council in March/April 2016.
- 1.3 This report sets out the strategic priorities for 2016/17 which have been identified by analysing a range of data from the year 2014/15 in relation to crime, anti-social behaviour, substance misuse and reoffending and were agreed by the Safer Portsmouth Partnership on 1st October.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That cabinet endorse the strategic priorities and encourage all members to take account of these priorities in their day to day decision making¹.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 enshrines in legislation the requirement for council, fire, police, probation and health services to work in partnership to reduce crime; it is not the sole responsibility of any one agency. The strategic assessment provides a

¹ Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act

summary of analysis to assist the partners in setting strategic priorities and revising its three year rolling partnership plan by:

- Checking the partnership's current priorities and identifying any emerging priorities,
 - Providing a better understanding of local issues and community needs, and
 - Providing knowledge of what is driving the problems to help identify appropriate responses.
- 3.2 Areas requiring further analysis are identified and added to the Research and Analysis Work Programme that also feeds business planning processes.
- 3.3 A matrix is used to check the priority crime and anti-social behaviour types. This matrix takes into consideration: volume, trends, bench-marking with other similar areas, public concern, and personal harm and whether they were likely to have a disproportionate impact against sections of the community or were linked to drug or alcohol misuse.
- 3.4 We also look at emerging themes and broader measures where Portsmouth compares poorly against the average for similar areas (including Southampton), community concerns and national trends. Looking at all of these things helps officers to identify the areas that should be addressed by the partnership.
- 3.5 Whilst the long term priority areas themselves have remained fairly constant over the years, our local research continues to improve and identifies specific drivers and/or issues within the priorities that reflect the changing socio-economic climate (see appendix A for strategic assessment conclusions).
- 3.6 Officers supporting the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Children's Trust Board work together to agree leadership, avoid duplication and enhance co-ordination.

4. **Strategic priorities for 2016/17**

- 4.1 The revised priorities agreed by the Safer Portsmouth Partnership for 2016/17 **focus on early intervention and prevention and** are set out below:
- Tackling violent crime by continuing to focus on **domestic abuse** and **alcohol-related violence**, but also developing our understanding of **sexual offences, hate crime** and **youth-related violence**.
 - Reduce **anti-social behaviour**, particularly focussing on **complex cases**.
 - Work with others to **identify cost benefits of intervening earlier** in complex cases of anti-social behaviour.
 - To ensure a specific **focus on drug and alcohol misusing perpetrators of anti-social behaviour** and offenders (via IOM).
 - **Early identification and interventions with adults and young people at risk** of perpetrating anti-social behaviour, offending or substance misuse

- Sustain improvements by alcohol misuse services to **reduce long term health issues.**
- Make sure drug treatment services **respond to the changing drug profile** of the city including the increased use of ecstasy and new psychoactive substances.
- **Support early intervention with children** who come to the attention of services before their needs escalate.
- To **support multi-agency work** by improving understanding and co-ordination between services.
- **Align research and analysis to localities**, support a partnership **community safety survey** and conduct **further research** to understand the increases in hate crime, youth-related violence and youth victimisation.

5. Reasons for recommendations

- 5.1 The city council is a key member of the community safety partnership and is required to work with the other 'responsible authorities'² as previously mentioned. However, it is the responsibility of the partnership to approve priorities for the city.
- 5.2 The process of identifying priorities set out above, is based on evidence and analysis and will stand up to scrutiny.
- 5.3 The endorsement by Cabinet of these priorities will facilitate the appropriate targeting of organisational resources across the partnership. Targeting resources in this way will help to drive down crime, substance misuse and anti-social behaviour and provide improved value for money. Existing cost benefit analyses have shown that early intervention can help reduce costs, for example:
- Every £1 spent on drug treatment saves £2.50 in costs to society (including costs to the criminal justice system and health services).
 - Domestic abuse is costing services in Portsmouth over £13 million. This does not include accommodation costs for children in care, and domestic abuse is by far the largest single factor experienced by children entering care (at least 60%).
 - One recent study found that better coordinated interventions from statutory and voluntary agencies can reduce the cost of wider service use for people with multiple needs by up to 26 per cent (Battrick et al 2014, Breaking Boundaries: Towards a 'troubled lives' programme, Institute for Public Policy Research September 2015)

² Local authorities, fire authorities (usually delegated to the fire service), national probation service, community rehabilitation companies and clinical commissioning groups are termed 'responsible authorities' under the Crime and Disorder Act.

6. Equality impact assessment

- 6.1 An equalities impact assessment has not been completed for this report but will be completed for priority area delivery plans.
- 6.2 The strategic assessment includes community concerns gleaned from the Community Safety Survey and Drug Picture Survey. The next community safety survey is due to take place in early 2016.

7. Legal implications

- 7.1 There are no immediate implications arising from this report.

8. Director of Finance's comments

- 8.1 In supporting the strategic objectives of the Safer Portsmouth Partnership, partner agencies will have operational plans that also reflect the constraints of their respective organisational budgets.

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Signed by:

Appendices:

Appendix A - Community Safety Priorities

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location
SPP Strategic Assessment 2014/15	Community Safety Team
SPP Research & Analysis Programme	Community Safety Team

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by on

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Signed by: