

North Tyneside Council Report to Cabinet Date: 10 June, 2013

ITEM 7(e)

Title: Initial proposals for the development of the Community Safety Strategy 2014-2019

Portfolio(s): Community Engagement

Cabinet Member(s): Councillor Carole Gambling

Report from Directorate: Chief Executive's Office

Report Author: Lynne Crowe, Community Safety Manager Tel: (0191) 643 6433

Wards affected: All

PART 1

1.1 Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to provide Cabinet with an outline of the process to be undertaken by the Safer North Tyneside Partnership in the production of its 2014-2019 Community Safety Strategy including information that will be taken into account to inform the priorities of the Strategy. The Authority has responsibility for leading the preparation of the Strategy on behalf of the Partnership.

1.2 Recommendation(s):

It is recommended that Cabinet agrees the initial proposals in relation to the preparation of the Safer North Tyneside Community Safety Strategy for the period 2014 to 2019 and the associated consultation arrangements.

1.3 Forward plan:

28 days notice of this report has been given and it first appeared on the Forward Plan that was published on 8 May, 2013.

1.4 Council plan and policy framework

The proposals in this report are not directly related to any of the priorities set out in the Council Strategic Plan 2012-2015.

Of the priorities set out in North Tyneside's Sustainable Community Strategy 2010-13, the Community Safety Strategy contributes to Priority 2 – Quality of Life, which includes the aims to 'improve public confidence by continuing to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour' and 'reduce the harm caused by the misuse of drugs and alcohol'.

The Community Safety Strategy is submitted to Cabinet pursuant to the rules under Part 4.7 of the Constitution for formulation and approval of plans and strategies within the Policy Framework.

1.5 Information:

1.5.1 Statutory Responsibility

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998, as amended by the Police Reform Act 2002, the Police and Justice Act 2006, the Police and Crime Act 2009 and the Crime and Disorder Regulations 2011, place a duty on 'responsible authorities' to work together, with other agencies, to tackle crime, disorder, substance misuse and reoffending within the community. The responsible authorities for North Tyneside are: North Tyneside Council, Northumbria Police, Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Authority, Northumbria Probation Trust and North Tyneside Clinical Commissioning Group. The Partnership is Chaired by the Cabinet Member responsible for Community Engagement.

It is a statutory requirement for Community Safety Partnerships (known in this borough as Safer North Tyneside) to prepare an annual 'strategic assessment' of crime and disorder issues impacting on the local community and for this to shape how the Partnership responds to emerging issues. This process informs the Community Safety Strategy and an annual review of that Strategy.

The current Community Safety Strategy covers the period April 2011 to March 2014. This means that the Partnership is now required to undergo a formal review process. Previously Community Safety Partnerships were required, statutorily, to review their strategy every 3 years. However, in 2011 this requirement was repealed. At a meeting of the Safer North Tyneside Board on 17 April 2013 the Partnership agreed that its next strategy should cover the period 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2019.

1.5.2 The Strategic Assessment

The Partnership's Strategic Assessment is a critical part of this review process and includes:

1. an analysis of the levels and patterns of crime, disorder, substance misuse, reoffending and behaviour adversely affecting the environment in the area;
2. an analysis of the changes in those levels and patterns since the previous strategic assessment;
3. an analysis of why those changes have occurred;
4. the matters which the responsible authorities should prioritise when each are exercising their functions to reduce crime and disorder, combat substance misuse and reduce reoffending in the area; and
5. the matters which the persons living and working in the area consider the responsible authorities should prioritise when each are exercising their functions to reduce crime and disorder, combat substance misuse and reduce reoffending in the area.

1.5.3 The Community Safety Strategy

The Community Safety Strategy is required to set out:

1. a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder and for combating substance misuse and reoffending in the area beginning April, 2014;

2. the priorities identified in the strategic assessment prepared during the year prior to April 2014;
3. the steps Safer North Tyneside considers necessary to take to implement that strategy and meet those priorities; and
4. the steps Safer North Tyneside shall take to measure its success in implementing the strategy and meeting those priorities.

1.5.4 Development Process

A first draft of the 2013 Strategic Assessment will be presented to the Safer North Tyneside Board for consultation and comment in July 2013. The Authority's Community Safety Analyst will work on the Assessment throughout the summer period. This work will include incorporating the findings of the North Tyneside Residents' Survey 2012.

To shape the priorities for the Community Safety Strategy, the Safer North Tyneside Policy and Performance Group (a group of senior officers of the Council, partner agencies and representatives of the Voluntary and Community Sector) will review the findings of the Strategic Assessment in September and make recommendations on the strategic direction and priorities in a first draft of the Strategy to Safer North Tyneside's Board in October, 2013.

The Board will consult a wide range of stakeholders on its proposed priorities between October and December, 2013.

Senior Officers from the Partnership will develop the Strategy around the agreed priorities with a view to the Safer North Tyneside Board agreeing the draft Strategy at its meeting in January 2014 for recommendation to the Council to approve the Strategy on behalf of the Authority.

In accordance with the Budget and Policy Framework Rules of Procedure as set out in Part 4.7 of the Council's Constitution, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be consulted on the Community Safety Strategy initial proposals. As part of the consultation programme the draft Community Safety Strategy will be presented to Overview and Scrutiny Committee prior to its referral to Cabinet and then finally Council for approval.

1.6 Decision options:

The following decision options are available for consideration by Cabinet:

Option 1

Cabinet to approve the proposals in relation to the preparation of the Safer North Tyneside Community Safety Strategy as recommended at paragraph 1.2.

Option 2

Cabinet does not approve the proposals.

Option 1 is the recommended option.

1.7 Reasons for recommended option:

If Cabinet approves the recommended option it will ensure the Authority, with its partners, is working within an up to date and relevant evidenced based framework for tackling community safety issues and is able to meet its statutory duty.

The production of this strategy is a statutory requirement and the process for developing it is prescribed by national standards. The arrangements detailed in the report provide for the Strategy to be based on current evidence and intelligence, the views of residents and the outcome of planned consultations through Safer North Tyneside and by individual responsible authorities. It will ensure that an up to date Community Safety Policy Framework is in place to support the well being of residents and to further enhance the Borough as a safe and attractive place to live.

1.8 Appendices:

Appendix 1: Proposed timetable for consultation

1.9 Contact officers:

Lynne Crowe, Community Safety Manager, Tel.: Ext 6433
Alison Campbell, Financial Business Manager, Tel.: Ext 7038

1.10 Background information:

The following information has been used in the compilation of this report and are available at the offices of the author.

- a. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998
- b. Statutory Instrument 1830 - The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007.
- c. Crime and Disorder Regulations 2011

PART 2 – COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF DECISION MAKING

2.1 Finance and other resources

There are no specific financial implications arising directly from this report. Consultation and partnership events linked to the preparation of the Strategy will be funded from existing budgets. Any financial implications arising following the preparation of the Strategy will be reported to future meetings of Cabinet and Council.

2.2 Legal

The statutory responsibilities in respect of the preparation of a Community Safety Strategy are set out in section 1.5 of this report.

The Community Safety Strategy forms part of the Authority's Policy Framework and is required to be formulated and progressed in compliance with the requirements of the Policy Framework Procedure Rules at section 4.7 of the Constitution.

The Constitution recognises that a number of strategies or plans are prepared under partnership arrangements, and that such documents need to be negotiated and agreed by the relevant authorities. One such strategy is the Community Safety Strategy, the preparation of which is the responsibility of the Safer North Tyneside Partnership. The Constitution (at Article 4.4) makes clear that the Council should not usually overturn any plans and strategies already agreed with local partners provided that the Budget and Policy Framework Rules have been complied with.

2.3 Consultation/community engagement

Consultation carried out with local communities provides key feedback on crime, disorder and substance misuse issues and will be used in the preparation of the Community Safety Strategy 2014-2019. This information includes:

- North Tyneside Council's Residents' Survey 2012;
- The Northumbria Safer Communities telephone Survey 2012-2013 - carried out by Northumbria Police on behalf of the six Community Safety Partnerships in the Force area, Northumbria Probation Trust and the Police;
- Safer North Tyneside's Feelings of Safety Survey November 2012 - carried out by Safer North Tyneside; and
- Outcome from the State of the Area event October 2012.

Further consultation will be carried out during October – December 2013 to inform the Strategy priorities. Safer North Tyneside will work up detailed proposals for consultation. See Appendix 1 for more information.

2.4 Human rights

There are no human rights implications directly arising from this report.

2.5 Equalities and diversity

There are no equalities and diversity implications directly arising from this report. An Equality Impact Assessment will be carried out on the consultation proposals.

2.6 Risk management

Risks relating to the actions in the Strategy will be identified and recorded in the risk register of the lead Service for the individual action concerned.

2.7 Crime and disorder

The Strategic Assessment and results of consultation ensures that relevant information relating to crime and disorder will inform the development of the Strategy and impact on the final document.

2.8 Environment and sustainability

There are no environment and sustainability implications directly arising from this report.

PART 3 - SIGN OFF

- Chief Executive x
- Mayor/Cabinet Member(s) x
- Chief Finance Officer x
- Monitoring Officer x
- Strategic Manager Policy, Partnerships, Performance and Communication x

Safer North Tyneside Strategy 2014 - 2019

Consultation Proposals

Stage	Provisional Date	Method
Cabinet to consider initial proposals for the development of the Community Safety Strategy	10 June, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report
Overview and Scrutiny Committee consulted on initial proposals for the Community Safety Strategy	TBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report
Safer North Tyneside's Strategic assessment (including community intelligence) complete.	18 th September, 2013	
Priorities for the Strategy identified by Safer North Tyneside Board	16 th October, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation
Consultation with Council Members on draft priorities	November, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members Weekly Briefing • Members Briefings
Public consultation on draft priorities	November, 2013	A mixture of methods including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus Group Work • Residents Panel • On-line
Consultation with Young Cabinet Member with responsibility for Community Safety	November, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation
Consultation with NTSP Executive on draft priorities	November, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report
Draft strategy presented to Safer North Tyneside Policy and Performance Group	18 th December, 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report
Draft strategy (final proposals) to Overview & Scrutiny Committee	TBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report
Draft strategy (final proposals) to Safer North Tyneside Board	15 th January, 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report
Draft strategy (final proposals) to Cabinet	TBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report
Community Safety Strategy (final proposals) to Council	TBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report