

Place Scrutiny Committee

30 January 2020

Community Safety Plan 2020-2023

For Decision

Portfolio Holder: Cllr G Carr-Jones, Housing and Community Safety

Local Councillor(s):

Executive Director: Vivienne Broadhurst, Interim Executive Director of People - Adults

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Report Status: Public

Recommendation:

That members of the committee consider and comment on the process for developing the Community Safety Plan 2020-2023.

Reason for Recommendation:

To assist in the development of an effective Community Safety Plan for Dorset.

1. Executive Summary

Dorset Council is under a legal duty to work with the following partners (responsible authorities) to identify and tackle community safety issues in its area:

- Dorset Police
- Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group
- Dorset & Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Authority
- National Probation Service (Dorset)
- Dorset, Devon and Cornwall Probation Services

Partners come together through the Dorset Community Safety Partnership (CSP). The CSP must produce three-year community safety plans that are revised annually. The plans should set out partners' priorities (informed by their latest Partnership Strategic Assessment (PSA)) and how they will address them in broad terms.

Partners' current plan expires on the 31 March 2020 and they are in the process of developing a new plan for the period 2020-2023.

Place Scrutiny Committee is the Council's formal Crime & Disorder Committee and is responsible for scrutinising the work of the Dorset CSP and partners' delivery of their community safety functions.

The committee is being asked to consider and comment on the process by which the CSP is developing its new community safety plan.

2. Financial Implications

The Dorset CSP does not receive funding, however partners' plans and strategies clarify where they will focus their time and effort and their broad activity to meet priorities.

From time to time, central government makes available one off funding opportunities to support community safety work such as tackling domestic abuse. When possible, partners apply for such funds.

3. Climate implications

It is not anticipated that partners' work to tackle community safety, including through the Community Safety Plan, will have an adverse effect on the environment or climate change.

4. Other Implications

The CSP works closely with other partnership bodies on areas of mutual interest, including safeguarding boards and partnerships. This work includes having joint approaches to learning lessons and good practice in relation to serious case reviews and domestic homicide reviews.

5. Risk Assessment

Having considered the risks associated with this decision, the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: Low

Residual Risk: Low

6. Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA)

An EqIA is being written alongside the development of the plan and will be used to inform the final version.

7. Appendices

Appendix – Community Safety Questions to the People’s Panel.

8. Background Papers

None.

9. Background

- 9.1 Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) are required to produce three-year community safety plans that are revised annually.
- 9.2 Community Safety Plans set partners’ strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder highlighting priority issues, how they will be tackled, how partners will measure progress and how they will engage and consult with the public.
- 9.3 Priorities should be informed by the findings from partners’ latest Partnership Strategic Assessment (PSA). In developing the plan, partners should consider the views of people living in the area about levels of crime and disorder and what community safety issues they should prioritise.
- 9.4 It is a requirement for the community safety plan to be formally adopted by the local authority’s full council.

10. Partnership Strategic Assessment (PSA)

- 10.1 CSPs are required to complete an annual PSA. The assessment uses a range of data and information to consider community safety issues and provide suggestions for priority work areas for inclusion in the community safety plan.
- 10.2 The purpose of the PSA is to provide an objective evidence base for partners to work from and in Dorset, a scoring tool called ‘MoRiLE’ (Management of Risk in Law Enforcement) is used to inform and guide the annual PSA.
- 10.3 MoRiLE is a national project that was created in 2014 to develop an approach to risk prioritisation that could be used by law enforcement agencies in a structured and consistent way. Many CSPs now use MoRiLE in the production of their PSAs.

- 10.4 MoRiLE uses a matrix of statistics, trends, impacts and forecasts to score issues and organise them in order of priority.
- 10.5 At its meeting on 19 December 2019, the Dorset CSP considered early findings from work undertaken on the latest PSA using the MoRiLE process. The following strategic priorities were highlighted:
- Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking
 - County Lines
 - Sexual Violence
 - Child (sexual) exploitation
 - Domestic Abuse
 - Rural Crime
- 10.6 Locality issues (to be picked up by multi-agency locality groups called Partnership Co-ordinating Groups) were also identified:
- Public place violence (robbery / non-domestic violence against the person / assault with injury)
 - Anti-social Behaviour
- 10.7 Although the following issues were highlighted it was recognised they are already the focus of other partnership arrangements that lead these areas of work:
- Killed and Seriously Injured (Dorset Road Safety Partnership)
 - Drug Related Deaths (substance misuse partnership groups led by Public Health Dorset)
- 10.8 Members of the CSP felt partners should also monitor and respond to hate crime including in the wider context of community cohesion.

11. Consultation and Engagement

- 11.1 Community safety plans should be informed by members of the public's views on community safety issues.
- 11.2 Questions relating to how safe people feel in their neighbourhood were included in the Council's last residents survey. The findings, which will be available in January 2020, will be used in the development of the community safety plan. Further, more detailed, questions are being sent to members of the Dorset People Panel (see the appendix).
- 11.3 A request has been sent to partners, including housing associations, for any relevant information they have on customer and service users views and experience of crime and community safety issues.
- 11.4 The information gained from the above will be used to shape and refine draft priorities which will be available for the public to comment on via the Council's website and a public event which will take place in

February (it is a legal requirement for the CSP to hold at least one public event each year to help determine people's views regarding crime and disorder and priority issues).

12. Finalising the Community Safety Plan

- 12.1 The information gained from the latest PSA and consultation exercises will be considered alongside any additional local and national research and the findings of an EqIA, to shape partners' priorities and produce the community safety plan.
- 12.2 The plan will set out partners' approach to tackling priorities highlighting in broad terms, ongoing and new work. More detailed delivery plans will be available that complement the community safety plan.
- 12.3 It is fundamental for partners to understand whether their actions and activity are impacting positively on the issues they are aiming to address. This year work has been undertaken to develop a performance dashboard that can be accessed by members of the CSP and provides up to date information on performance issues and trends. The dashboard allows members of the CSP to take a more proactive approach to assessing performance.
- 12.4 Over the course of 2020/21 work will be completed to better understand the detail and causal factors behind partners' priorities so that more targeted interventions can be put in place to address them.
- 12.5 This year the CSP has developed its consultation and engagement work. This will continue with the new community safety plan with a particular focus on using consultation and engagement to understand members of the public and service users experience and concerns about community safety issues.

13. Agreeing and Adopting the New Plan

- 13.1 The intention is to complete the new community safety plan so it can be agreed at the CSP meeting in March 2020.
- 13.2 Once agreed by the CSP it is necessary for the Plan to be formally adopted by the Local Authority's Full Council. That adoption process will begin by bringing the agreed plan to members of Place Scrutiny Committee for them to consider recommending to Full Council, via Cabinet.

Community Safety Questions to the People's Panel

The Dorset Community Safety Partnership wants to understand people's experience of crime in their local area to help shape it's work for the coming year. It would be great if you could complete this short survey to help us with this.

Q1 The following are a problem where I live.

- Hate crime
- Graffiti
- Anti-social behaviour
- Knife crime
- Slavery/human trafficking
- Alcohol related crime
- Sexual violence
- Vehicle crime
- Domestic abuse
- Burglary
- Rural crime
- Drug dealing
- Violence in public places
- Neighbour disputes
- Criminal exploitation

(Options: Strongly disagree, Disagree, Neither agree nor disagree, Agree, Strongly agree, I'm not sure)

Q2 Are there any other areas of community safety that concern you where you live?

Q3 To what extent do you think crime is an issue where you live?

- It's a big issue and has a serious impact on my daily life
- It's a problem and I take it into consideration in my daily life
- There are some issues but they don't have much impact on my daily life
- Crime isn't an issue where I live and it doesn't affect my daily life

Q4 To what extent do you think anti-social behaviour is an issue where you live?

- It's a big issue and has a serious impact on my daily life
- It's a problem and I take it into consideration in my daily life
- There are some issues but they don't have much impact on my daily life

- Anti-social behaviour isn't an issue where I live and it doesn't affect my daily life

Q5 Have you been a victim of crime in the last 12 months?

- Yes
- No

Q6 Have you been a victim of anti-social behaviour in the last 12 months

- Yes
- No

Q7 Have any of your friends or family been a victim of crime in the last 12 months?

- Yes
- No
- I'm not sure

Q8 Have any of your friends or family been a victim of anti-social behaviour in the last 12 months?

- Yes
- No
- I'm not sure

Q9 How much do you agree or disagree that each of the following influence how you feel about crime?

- TV news (national)
- TV news (local)
- Papers (national)
- Papers (local)
- Radio (national)
- Radio (local)
- Facebook
- Twitter
- Friends and Family
- Neighbours
- People you work with

(Options: Strongly Disagree, Disagree, Neither Agree nor Disagree, Agree, Strongly Agree, I'm not sure / Not applicable).

Q10 Is there anything else you feel influences how you feel about crime?

Survey respondents will also be asked for their postcode and standard personal information questions.