

CABINET

THURSDAY 17TH JUNE 2021

REPORT OF THE PORTOFOLI HOLDER COMMUNITY SAFETY AND REGULATORY SERVICES

TAMWORTH COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2020-2023 (2021 ANNUAL REFRESH)

EXEMPT INFORMATION

None

PURPOSE

To endorse the annual refresh of the Tamworth Community Safety Partnership Plan

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Members

1. Consider and endorse the Tamworth Community Safety Plan 2021 Refresh

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Tamworth Community Safety plan 2020-2023 is a three year rolling plan which outlines how partners are going to collectively tackle community safety issues in the Tamworth borough. The 2021 refresh highlights what has been achieved against the outcomes set in the previous year and to outline priorities moving forward identified in the Community Safety Strategic assessment

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has had an unprecedented impact on the lives of everyone. The virus and measures to control rates of infection (such as the national lockdowns, systems to limit social contact, and the temporary closure of education settings) have had a significant impact on many; directly affecting individual's physical health, mental health and well-being, education and employment.

The combined impact of reduced contact with the public, significant limitations on travel and social contact, the closure and strict restrictions in public spaces and recreational spaces, is that services have seen unprecedented shifts in demand.

As a result, the data in this year's annual Community Safety Strategic Assessment

refresh report, is highly irregular, and that observations and analysis should be considered in the context of the coronavirus pandemic and its impact on 'normal' day-to-day life. Restrictions imposed as part of the government approach to controlling the Coronavirus pandemic have resulted in significant reductions in recorded crime and disorder from mid-March 2020 onwards

It is felt, however, that all priorities are relevant and proportionate as the borough continues to emerge from the pandemic and all require a robust multi-agency response in order to have a positive impact on people's quality of life.

The 2021 Community Safety refresh plan is attached as Appendix 1.

The plan was considered by the Infrastructure, Safety and Growth Scrutiny Committee on 25th March 2021 and has been recommended for endorsement by Cabinet prior to publication on Tamworth Borough Council webpage.

Tamworth Borough Council is the lead partner, but the plan is agreed by all key statutory and voluntary partners and Partnership continues to work together to reduce crime and ASB to improve public perception, wellbeing and community safety in Tamworth.

2020 Achievements and Challenges

- The Covid response has seen an unprecedented and positive partnership approach to vulnerable people in our communities
- There has been a rise in referrals for Domestic Abuse to support agencies which will remain a high priority for all County partners
- Significant reduction in ASB, countered by a rise in demand on noise complaint and neighbour disputes as a result of lockdown
- There is concern around the impact on mental health as a result of the pandemic
- There has been a fall in serious violence and crime overall during 2020/21

2021-2022 Priorities

Using partnership data and the updated Tamworth Community Safety Strategic Assessment 2020, the following key partnership priorities have been identified (listed in alphabetical order):

- **Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)**
- **Car Key Burglary and Vehicle Theft**
- **Community Cohesion and Tackling Extremism (NEW)**
- **County Lines**
- **Domestic Abuse and Stalking & Harassment**
- **Public Place and Serious Violence (including Knife Crime)**
- **Vulnerable Persons and Contextual Safeguarding (including Drugs, Alcohol and Mental Health)**

The Community Safety Plan will be continue to be overseen by the Tamworth Partnership Coordination Group. Scrutiny will remain with the IS&G committee on matters of community safety.

All work streams will have a robust work plan which is being developed following the COVID-19 emergency with a number of underlying principles to ensure that we embed our approach to delivery of the plan:-

- Prevention wherever possible
- Early intervention
- Targeting prolific offenders
- Targeting resources to hotspot areas
- Supporting victims
- Increasing public confidence

Through early intervention the Community SP will prevent issues escalating, reducing harm to individuals and ensuring that they receive help and support as early as possible.

Locality Deal Funding

The Staffordshire Commissioners Office has committed £64,143.75 for projects in 2021/22 aligned to priorities and the Partnership.

A agreed spend plan is currently being considered to include:

- Support for the ongoing voluntary sector befriending service
- Funding to support deployable CCTV equipment (in conjunction with the West Midlands Combined Authority shared service agreement)
- Support for the county wide Hate Crime Service
- Contribution to ASB mediation services
- Support to wider mental health services
- Promotional and community events awareness campaign
- Support for volunteering

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

None – the CS Plan is required under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Plan will be delivered within existing partnership officer, neighbourhood's team, environmental team and other statutory partner resource.

Funding sources are primarily through the Locality Deal Fund

LEGAL/RISK IMPLICATIONS BACKGROUND

All legal risks covered by legislation and agreed process

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

To be reviewed on a quarterly basis by the Partnership Coordination Group and by annual assessment

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 changed the way crime and anti-social behaviour were to be tackled. It recognised that in order to be effective, agencies needed to work together to address the issues collectively. Each local area formed a Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) which are now called Community Safety Partnerships.

A comprehensive Community Safety Strategic Assessment is undertaken in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent every three years and an annual update is undertaken in the remaining two years. Additionally this process is undertaken in each district / borough Authority.

Data from a wide range of sources was analysed to show how the CSP compares with other areas for the priority crime types and how volumes and rates have changed over time and how they vary by ward. Information from research was used to describe any notable risk factors and victim and offender characteristics as well as approaches to partnership working.

REPORT AUTHOR

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LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Tamworth Community Safety Plan 2020-23 (2021 REFRESH)

Appendix 2– 2020 Community Strategic Assessment REFRESH