

INFRASTRUCTURE, SAFETY AND GROWTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

THURSDAY 24TH MARCH 2022

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR - PARTNERSHIPS

TAMWORTH COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2020-2023 (2022 ANNUAL REFRESH)

EXEMPT INFORMATION

None

PURPOSE

To consider the draft annual refresh of the Tamworth Community Safety Partnership Plan 2020-2023

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that Scrutiny Committee

1. Consider the Tamworth Community Safety Plan 2022 Refresh for recommendation for endorsement by Cabinet
2. Consider and recommend that Cabinet continue to endorse the main three year overarching plan only from 2023 following review by Scrutiny.
3. Recommend the endorsement of the annual refresh of the Community Safety plan be considered at Scrutiny only for publication from 2024
4. Report to Cabinet as required should annual refresh report highlight any new or updated priorities or actions for the Council

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 2022 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 (Appendix 2)

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic continues to have 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 pandemic has continued to impact the operation and delivery of front-line services including use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and limiting non-essential face to face contact with the public and service users, and with other professionals.

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, remains 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.

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 2022 Community Safety refresh plan is attached as Appendix 1 and will be updated on Scrutiny recommendation 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.

Future Plans

At this time, Cabinet are asked to endorse the 3 year plan and its refresh every year following consideration by Scrutiny.

It is proposed that from the next full Community Safety Strategic Assessment in 2023 that the annual refresh remains under the Scrutiny of the IS&G committee for endorsement and publication, with the full plan (2023-26) only requiring Cabinet endorsement (unless there are significant changes to the priorities).

The IS&G Scrutiny Committee are the agreed scrutiny under the Council's constitution for the Community Safety Partnership.

This will provide opportunity for Scrutiny to continue to have more detailed oversight from Tamworth Police, the Assistant Director Partnerships, Portfolio Holder and the Staffordshire Commissioners Office on an annual basis via Councillor seminars other updates.

2021 Achievements and Challenges

- Continued positive partnership approach to vulnerable people in our communities
- Continued high referral to Domestic Abuse support agencies with increased awareness of domestic abuse through sharing of County wide campaigns
- Continued reduced Police reported ASB
- Continued demand on noise complaint and neighbour disputes with improved lower lever interventions for resolution

- Work with Staffordshire Commissioners Office County Hate Crime and ASB Support/Mediation commissioning and contract
- Support for CT CIC Befriending line
- Renewal of Tamworth Advice Centre contract
- Support for mental health is a priority for all agencies with ongoing work with VCSE partners and Midland Partnership Foundation Trust
- Further lottery funding for Tamworth Covid-19 Partnership
- There has been a fall in serious violence and crime overall
- Ongoing local work to address County lines and substance misuse problems
- Support for County and Staffordshire Commissioners Office diversionary activity
- Increased partnership working for awareness campaigns around community safety issues

Further activity is outlined in the Community Safety Plan annual refresh.

2022-2023 Priorities

Using partnership data and the updated Tamworth Community Safety Strategic Assessment 2021, the following key partnership priorities remain:

- **Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)**
- **Domestic Abuse and Stalking & Harassment**
- **Car Key Burglary and Vehicle Theft**
- **Community Cohesion and Tackling Extremism**
- **County Lines**
- **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

All work streams continue to have a robust work plan 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 CSP 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 (SCO) has confirmed the Tamworth LDF allocation from April 2022 is £61,394 per year to support in order to:-

- support the development / commissioning of discreet schemes to address local priorities, as highlighted in the strategic assessment (using an updated agreed formula); and
- support the development / commissioning of joint initiatives to address shared priorities where this is appropriate / advantageous, as identified via the strategic assessment and the Strategic Community Safety Forum;

This allocation of will be made available throughout the current Commissioners term(3 years), reliant on the CSPs providing assurance over their capacity to manage the funding, submitting an outline spend to the Commissioner at the beginning of each financial year for sign off and a brief evaluation report at the end of each financial year.

In addition £10,000 is made available for 2022/23 to support more dynamic, local problem solving of antisocial behaviour (ASB) issues, with projects identified and agreed through local tasking processes.

The Partnership has begun to identify relevant projects for endorsement by the Staffordshire Commissioners Office by May 2021. All partners will be involved in the spend plan which will give some sustainability and stability as a result of this decision by the SCO.

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 – Draft CS Plan 2020-23 (2021 REFRESH)

Appendix 2– 2020 Community Strategic Assessment REFRESH

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