



Report to:	Cabinet
Lead Cabinet Member:	Cllr Bill Handley - Lead Cabinet Member for Communities
Lead Officer:	Peter Campbell – Lead Officer for South Cambs Community Safety Partnership

South Cambridgeshire Community Safety Partnership – Operational Plan 2023/24

Executive summary

1. The purpose of this paper is to present the South Cambridgeshire Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Operational Plan for 2023/24.
2. As the accountable body for the CSP, the Council must have oversight of, and be in agreement with, the Plan.

Key Decision

3. No – this is not a key decision

Recommendations

4. It is recommended that Cabinet agrees the content of the Operational Plan for 2023-24, considering the lead role the Council takes in its delivery and the resources committed to it.

Reasons for Recommendations

5. The CSP is made up of representatives from Police, Health, Probation, South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC), Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Authority, Cambridgeshire County Council and the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sector. The Police and Crime Commissioner must have regard to the CSP priorities within their Police and Crime Plan.
6. The responsible authorities listed are also required, under section 17 of Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (the Act), to consider the implication on crime and disorder of all their day-to-day activities. These are wide reaching across the work of the Council and include designing out crime in new developments, tackling frontline priorities through the Neighbourhood Services Team (Housing), and issuing a wide range Protection Orders through Environmental Health and Licensing teams.

Details

7. The CSP is a statutory partnership, established by the Act. The aim of the CSP is to reduce crime, disorder, substance misuse and re-offending in a strategic and informed way. Some of the statutory responsibilities of the CSP are discharged through other countywide partnerships, including the reduction of substance misuse and reoffending.
8. A number of duties have come to Local Authorities and CSPs of late, which include:
 - Prevent Duty – A Local Authority duty to prevent the radicalisation of vulnerable people who might be drawn into extremist or terrorism activity. This is coordinated for Cambridgeshire by the County Council and delivered at the district level. Activity is reviewed by the CSP on a regular basis.
 - Protect Duty – On 2 May 2023 the Government published the draft Terrorism (Protection of Places) Bill, also known as Martyn’s law. When in place, this law will place a proportionate duty on those operating premises open to the public, which seeks to ensure stronger protections against terrorism in public places. This will be done on a tiered basis, with more stringent requirements for those operating high-capacity venues (800+).
 - Serious Violence Duty – overseen and co-ordinated in Cambridgeshire by the High Harms Board, this is a duty on a range of specified authorities to share information and target interventions to prevent and reduce serious violence in the community. It also amends the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to ensure that existing Community Safety Partnerships make serious violence a priority.
9. Figure 1 in appendix A shows how the South Cambs CSP fits into the structure of community safety and related bodies across the county.
10. South Cambridgeshire District Council is one of the named ‘responsible authorities’ and is the accountable body for the CSP, taking a lead role in administering the work of the Partnership.
11. The CSP produces an annual Operational Plan to deliver the statutory requirements and identifying projects / themes of work to add value to the work of individual agencies. As the accountable body and in committing resources to it, SCDC must have oversight of and be in agreement with the Plan.
12. This report presents the CSP Operational Plan and associated Communications Forward Plan for 2023/24. As always, the work of the CSP and its subgroups is kept under constant review to maximise the added value that comes from partnership working. The Terms of Reference for each group are currently being reviewed. Two councillors from SCDC sit on the CSP Board, they are Cllr Sally Ann Hart and Cllr Helene Leeming. They have helped shape and develop the operational plan.
13. The Operational Plan for 2023/24 and associated Communications Forward Plan at Appendix B summarises the current activities of the CSP and this is made up of
 - i. statutory responsibilities; and

- ii. other projects identified by partners or driven by data to support the partnership's overarching aims.

Appendix C is a list of recommendations that have been accepted by the Board, with details of how exactly these will be delivered to be agreed during a forthcoming review of the CSP's work.

14. For 2023/24, the CSP priorities have changed to reflect the recommendations of the March 2023 strategic assessment and the duties outlined above, as follows:

- i. Improve resilience in communities across South Cambridgeshire
- ii. Ensure priority areas continue to be driven by data whilst also being informed by professional judgement
- iii. Strive to protect those vulnerable to abuse, harassment, and violence

15. Priority areas (on a geographic and thematic basis) are identified through an annual Strategic Assessment and regular data reviews, which highlight where parishes might be flagging on multiple crime and activity types.

16. The geographical priorities for 2023/24 are:

- i. Cambourne
- ii. Orchard Park
- iii. Northstowe
- iv. Milton and Waterbeach (which will get a data 'deep dive' to help partners better understand local issues).

17. The thematic focus and subject of a data 'deep dive' will be violence against the person and public order, which have increased in South Cambridgeshire in the last year.

18. The existing and allocated £15,000 per annum SCDC budget will continue to be available for Community Safety. This amount remains unchanged, and this is apportioned as follows:

- i. Commissioning the Strategic Assessment – approximately £9,500 per annum (which this year will include a deep dive into Milton & Waterbeach as well as violence against the person and public order)
- ii. Contributing to the countywide Domestic Homicide Review (DHR)¹ commissioning model – approximately £4,000 per annum. Each responsible authority is required to pay the same.
- iii. Projects to support the delivery of the Operational Plan – approximately £1,500

¹ **A Domestic Homicide Review (DHR)** is a multi-agency review of the circumstances in which the death of a person aged 16 or over has, or appears to have, resulted from violence, abuse or neglect by a person to whom they were related or with whom they were, or had been, in an intimate personal relationship, or a member of the same household as themselves. Since 13 April 2011 there has been a statutory requirement for local areas to conduct a DHR following a domestic homicide that meets the criteria.

19. SCDC is now in year 2 of a three-year agreement with the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) which provides £45,000 per annum for a CSP Project Officer. This resource has been publicised to partners and to elected members frequently over the last 12 months. The postholder is listening to and working with the public to act on their concerns and support them to assist themselves, thereby developing community resilience. They are supporting partners on the CSP to deal with the local issues of crime and disorder which matter most to people who live and work in the area.

Examples of work include:

- Attendance at Cambourne/ Northstowe/ Orchard Park fetes, fayres and events in conjunction with CSP partners
- 'Coffee With A Cop' - Sawston, Linton, Melbourn. Upcoming Gamlingay events and building relationships with PCSOs (Police Community Support Officers)
- Web resources and signposting for residents on the Council's website
- Involvement in Northstowe anti-social behaviour and tenancy integration work
- Increasing engagement and reporting in Orchard Park as priority area
- Northstowe ASB - encouraging Town Council involvement & support to understand their responsibilities
- Creating County Lines events for parents in the District
- Creation of a 'Transforming Lives' ASB session for young people on the edges of risk taking behaviour that can be rolled out to other youth cohorts.
- Cambourne Speedwatch – recently launched
- Melbourne underpass partnership project - recently completed

20. There is currently PCC funding available through the 'Safer Communities' and 'Youth Fund' schemes. Three projects supported in South Cambs so far are:

- Melbourne underpass project – improving the safety of the area
- Firebreak youth courses – teaching young people life skills
- Cambourne Romsey Mill youth work – addressing youth ASB

21. The CSP Operational Plan for 2023/24 continues to take account of this agreement and includes an action to oversee the work of the Project Officer.

Options

22. Cabinet could:

- i. Agree the CSP Operational Plan for 2023/24, considering the lead role the Council takes in its delivery and the resources committed to it.
- ii. Not agree the CSP Operational plan for 2023/24, detailing feedback to the CSP to consider for approval at a later stage.
- iii. Defer a decision until a later date, pending further information.

Implications

23. In the writing of this report, taking into account financial, legal, staffing, risk, equality and diversity, climate change, and any other key issues, the following implications have been considered: -

Financial

24. The sum contributed to the pooled fund for commissioning DHRs on a countywide basis has remained the same for the coming year (£4,000), but this figure could change in future years depending on the number of DHRs required and the average cost of each.

Staffing

25. The CSP Project Officer is line managed and supported by the existing Community Safety Partnership Development Officer, within the Communications and Communities Team.

26. The funding from the OPCC has an associated monitoring and reporting requirement which will be undertaken by the Community Safety Partnership Development Officer.

27. The CSP Operational Plan references the Prevent duty for Local Authorities, as well as the Serious Violence Duty (and when more is known about Martyn's Law, this too is likely to feature). Progress against the SCDC Prevent Plan is reported on to the CSP and the countywide Prevent Board on a regular basis. The Serious Violence Duty is led by the High Harms Board and more information will be made available as work on this progresses (to include a countywide Needs Assessment).

Alignment with Council Priority Areas

28. Modern and Caring Council: the CSP is a statutory partnership whose work aligns to that of the Council in tackling crime and disorder.

Background Papers

None

Appendices

Appendix A: Community Safety Partnership structure

Appendix B: CSP Operational Plan and Comms Forward Plan 2023/24

Appendix C: Recommendations from the Strategic Assessment for the 2023/24 financial year

Appendix D: Glossary of terms

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