

REPORT TO: Scrutiny & Overview Committee 13 Feb 2020

LEAD CABINET MEMBER: Cllr Bridget Smith

LEAD OFFICER: Mike Hill, Director Health & Environmental Services

Community Safety Partnership Review and Action Planning: 2019-21

Executive Summary

1. The Community Safety Partnership (formerly the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, CDRP) was established following the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (The Act) to reduce crime, disorder and substance misuse.
2. At the February 2019 meeting of the then CDRP it was agreed that the Partnership's purpose and functions needed to be reviewed and refreshed. A Development Day was held in October 2019, where it was agreed, amongst other things, that the CDRP would change its name and become a Community Safety Partnership (CSP), bringing it in line with the other CSPs across the county.
3. The purpose of this report is to:
 - ensure members are aware of the scope of the remit of the CSP; and
 - demonstrate the inextricable link between the core work of the Council and the work of the CSP.

Key Decision

4. No, this is not a key decision. The constitution of the Council states that the work of the CSP should be brought to the Scrutiny and Overview Committee on an annual basis.

Recommendations

5. It is recommended that the Scrutiny and Overview Committee notes the information contained within the report and appendices and make recommendations and/or request further information about the approach the Council is taking with regard to Community Safety Partnership work.

Reasons for Recommendations

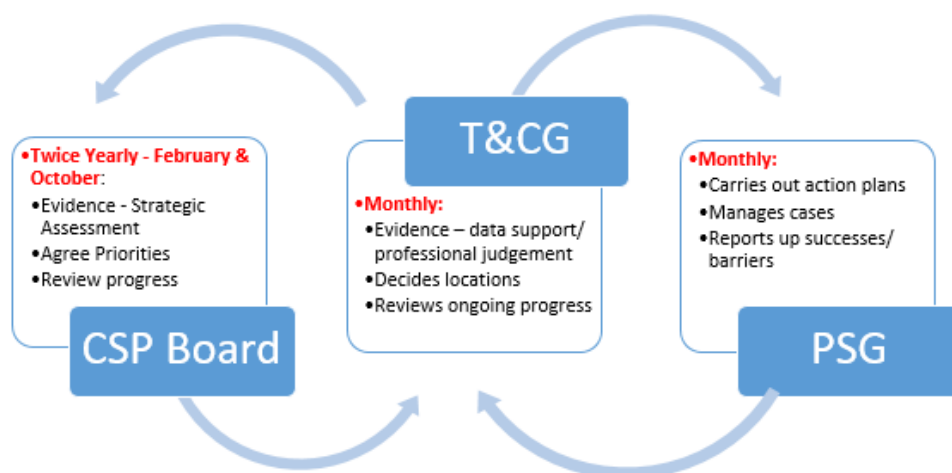
6. The CSP is a statutory partnership and the district council is one of a number of named 'responsible authorities', the others being Cambridgeshire County Council, Cambridgeshire Constabulary, Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue Service (CFRS), Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group (C&P CCG), Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire Community Rehabilitation Company (BeNCH CRC Ltd) and the National Probation Service.
7. In brief, the statutory requirements are:
 - set up a strategic group to direct the work of the partnership
 - regularly engage and consult with the community about their priorities and progress achieving them
 - set up protocols and systems for sharing information
 - analyse a wide range of data, including recorded crime levels and patterns, in order to identify priorities in an annual strategic assessment
 - set out a partnership plan and monitor progress
 - produce a strategy/ies to reduce reoffending and substance misuse
 - commission domestic violence homicide reviews
8. The Police and Crime Commissioner must have regard to the CSP priorities within their police and crime plan. A few topic-based countywide delivery partnerships exist to support the work of the local CSPs in meeting their statutory duties. These were set up with the agreement of local CSPs and cover issues that can be tackled more appropriately on a larger scale (e.g. reoffending, substance misuse and rural crime – through the Rural Community Action Team (RCAT)).
9. In addition to the statutory partnership, responsible authorities are also required, under s.17 of The Act, to consider the implication on crime and disorder of all their day to day activities.
10. The table at Appendix A shows the Council's current work on the CSP and in tackling crime and disorder more generally.

Details

11. CSPs generally exist at a district-level, however, partnerships can apply to the Secretary of State to merge with other CSPs locally. The district council is usually the accountable body for district-level CSPs. SCDC has been the accountable body for the South Cambridgeshire CSP since it was formed.

12. The CSP Board sets the direction and headline priorities for the work of the partnership and oversees the identification of resources for this work, managing risk and reviewing progress. Decisions regarding actions and the allocation of specific resources are delegated to the Tasking and Co-ordination Group (TCG).
13. As requested at the Development Day, there has been a review of membership, frequency of meetings, funding (including funding for Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR)) and the role and purpose of the meetings that feed into the CDRP, namely the TCG and the Problem Solving Group (PSG).
14. The TCG itself is leading on a 2-part review of:
 - how the TCG and PSG function and the lines of communication between these groups and the Board (see fig 1 below, which represents the two-way communication flow that is essential for identifying issues, priority setting and decision-making, and delivering solutions);
 - how data is used to inform the Strategic Assessment and priority-setting for the CSP.

Figure 1 Summary of annual evidence gathering process of the CSP



15. The following proposal for how the CSP focuses its work is to be discussed by the CSP Board at the 27 Feb 2020 meeting:
 - *Priorities driven by data and informed by professional judgement will be organised under the following headings:*
 - *Emerging - areas where multiple issues are presenting and/or where escalating issues have been identified (an example might be Cambourne)*

- *Preventing – growth areas and/or existing communities where vulnerabilities are predicted to be an issue for the future (examples might be Northstowe or Scams)*
 - *Sustaining – areas where work has been / is being done to tackle known issues are supported to improve future resilience (an example might be Willingham)*
 - *Areas where communities are galvanising energy into action and can share their experiences with others to improve community resilience (examples might be Gamlingay Community Safety Group / Bassingbourn - developing young people's diversionary activities)*
16. Appendices B and C show the operational plan ('business as usual') and the Transformation Topic action plan (funded by the OPCC) for 2019-21.
17. A summary of the budget reported to the CSP for 2018-19 and 2019-20 can be found at Appendix D. The only change to this is that the CSP has received confirmation of an award of £36,650.00 from the OPCC.
18. SCDC has its own Community Safety budget of approx. £66,000 which covers £15,000 of recharges, £35,000 salaries, £7,000 County Research Analyst and leaves £9,000 for projects and interventions as required. The CSP is not financially secure enough to enable the employment of staff.
19. Historically, the cost of the strategic assessment (SA) delivered by the crime research team has been shared between Cambridgeshire County Council, SCDC and police, giving these agencies greater control over how the SA is delivered (number of reports per year, attendance at meetings of analysts) and giving staff greater job security.

Implications

20. 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

21. There is a financial implication for the Council of commissioning further Domestic Homicide Reviews. The Pooled Fund is sufficient for one further DHR. Beyond that there is a statutory responsibility to undertake DHRs with no further funding set aside by the partnership. The Cambridgeshire County Council Asst Director for Community Safety is leading a piece of work to create a new, centrally held pooled fund for this work, to which the district council will be expected to contribute annually.

Staffing

22. There are implications for CSP work with regard to officer capacity within the Sustainable Communities Team.

Alignment with Council Priority Areas

23. The CSP is a statutory partnership whose work aligns to that of the Council in tackling crime and disorder.

Appendices

Appendix A: Table of the Council's current work on the CSP and in tackling crime and disorder more generally.

Appendix B: CSP Operational Plan

Appendix C: CSP Transformation Topic Plan

Appendix D: Summary of budget 2018-19 & 2019-20 as presented to the Board Oct 2019

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