

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date of Meeting:	9 April 2019
Subject:	Community Safety Partnership Update
Report of:	Head of Community Services
Corporate Lead:	Deputy Chief Executive
Lead Member:	Lead Member for Community
Number of Appendices:	One

Executive Summary:

Community safety responsibilities have continued to evolve since the original formation of the Tewkesbury Borough Community Safety Partnership almost 20 years ago. Successive changes to public services have resulted in less in-house capacity and a move away from localised services in other community safety partner agencies.

The Police and Crime Commissioner, in agreement with the Council Chief Executives, carried out a review of community safety across Gloucestershire. The review recognised that each of the Council's Community Safety Partnerships worked in different ways and there was little coordination between them across the county. The review also noted that, whilst legal responsibility for community safety matters sits within each Community Safety Partnership, a coordinating group would be beneficial to provide some oversight and direction.

This countywide partnership is now in place and "Safer Gloucestershire" has considered the countywide community safety priorities. Priorities are gained from an analysis of statistics across the county from a document called the Gloucestershire Community Safety Strategic Needs Assessment (GCSSNA) which contains countywide data on crime, anti-social behaviour and health etc.

The Tewkesbury Borough Community Safety Partnership has been reconstituted and has met twice. The first meeting was in order to agree the terms of reference and deal with the setting up of the new partnership and the second was to start considering the countywide and local priorities.

Recommendation:

To CONSIDER the update on the Community Safety Partnership.

Reasons for Recommendation:

The terms of reference for the Tewkesbury Borough Community Safety Partnership states that regular reports will be brought to this Committee to inform members of progress on the development and activities arising from the Community Safety Strategy.

Resource Implications:

None arising directly as a result of this report.

Legal Implications:

Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) were set up under Sections 5-7 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. They are made up of representatives from 'responsible authorities' which are the local authorities, police, fire and rescue, probation and health. Community Safety remains a responsibility of second tier Councils.

Risk Management Implications:

None arising directly as a result of this report.

Performance Management Follow-up:

An annual report on the work of Safer Gloucestershire and the local Community Safety Partnership will be produced for this Committee to consider.

Environmental Implications:

None arising directly as a result of this report.

1.0 INTRODUCTION/ BACKGROUND

- 1.1** Community safety is about feeling safe, whether at home, in the street or at work. It relates to quality of life and being able to pursue and obtain the fullest benefits from your domestic, social and economic lives without fear or hindrance from harm, crime and disorder.
- 1.2** Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) were set up under Sections 5-7 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. They are made up of representatives from 'responsible authorities' which are the local authorities, police, fire and rescue, probation and health although they can invite other strategic partners to be part of the partnership if they wish.
- 1.3** Locally the CSP was suspended pending the outcome of the countywide review. Now that review is completed, Safer Gloucestershire is established and the local Tewkesbury Borough Community Safety Partnership has been reconstituted.

2.0 SAFER GLOUCESTERSHIRE

- 2.1** The review into community safety in Gloucestershire concluded that, whilst the responsibility for dealing with community safety and coordinating the local CSP sits with second tier authorities, it would be beneficial to have a countywide view of the work that is being undertaken.
- 2.2** The overall purpose of Safer Gloucestershire is to develop the strategic vision for community safety so that the residents of Gloucestershire feel safer. It will achieve this through:
- Strong and Effective Leadership
 - Encouraging improved co-ordination and integration of joined up services
 - Identifying the needs and priorities of Gloucestershire residents using countywide and local data sources

- 2.3** In April 2018, Safer Gloucestershire undertook a Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA), utilising expertise and capacity within GCC's Public Health Team, as the basis for future planning and delivery. This identified six priority areas:
- Locality based crime
 - Deprivation and vulnerability
 - Safeguarding children
 - Substance/alcohol misuse
 - Domestic abuse/sexual violence
 - Criminal exploitation – link County Lines, Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking

- 2.4** The Tewkesbury Borough Community Safety Partnership will support these countywide priorities and where possible will engage in activities to promote them as priorities.

3.0 TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

- 3.1** The Tewkesbury Borough Community Safety Partnership has been reconstituted with the remit and governance as set out in the agreed Terms of Reference. Members will note that the Tewkesbury Borough Community Safety Partnership will take a strategic approach to dealing with community safety in the borough. This means using an evidence-based approach to problem solving.
- 3.2** The Terms of Reference for the Tewkesbury Borough Community Safety Partnership have been agreed and are appended to this report.
- 3.3** Due to the Tewkesbury Borough Community Safety Partnership not being in place for a number of years, the necessary infrastructure has not in place e.g. there is currently no coordinated method for collating and tracking anti-social behaviour complaints across the partnership. This has been addressed in part by the Community Services Review and restructure which introduced a community support team to coordinate anti-social behaviour and other community safety related issues across the partnership.
- 3.4** This has seen some improvement of coordination across the partners and officers are now working more closely together to tackle problem areas and individuals; however, at the moment there is no single case management system for tracking ASB cases in order to allow the partners to track cases and trends and identify hotspot areas. A bid has been made to the Gloucestershire Police and Crime Commissioner in order to allow the partnership to develop this tool.
- 3.5** The last meeting of the Tewkesbury Borough Community Safety Partnership also heard from two external speakers who can support the Tewkesbury Borough Community Safety Partnership in developing its partnership strategy in terms of the mapping of crime and anti-social behaviour data and training partners to develop additional skills in community engagement which would enable communities to assist themselves better in solving local problems.
- 3.6** Work has also started on the community services strategy for the borough, building on the priorities already set by Safer Gloucestershire; it is thought that local priorities will align very well to these. It is the intention to have a draft of this strategy for discussion by the Tewkesbury Borough Community Safety Partnership partners at the next meeting in June and it will be brought back to this Committee in due course.

4.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1** None

5.0 CONSULTATION

5.1 None

6.0 RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICIES/STRATEGIES

6.1 None

7.0 RELEVANT GOVERNMENT POLICIES

7.1 None

8.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (Human/Property)

8.1 None

9.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS (Social/Community Safety/Cultural/ Economic/ Environment)

9.1 None

10.0 IMPACT UPON (Value For Money/Equalities/E-Government/Human Rights/Health And Safety)

10.1 None

11.0 RELATED DECISIONS AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT FACTS

11.1 None

Background Papers: None

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Appendices: Appendix 1 - Tewkesbury Borough Community Safety Partnership
Terms of Reference