

Agenda Item	
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Report to Corporate Overview & Scrutiny Committee



Date of Meeting	28 th November 2019
Portfolio	Neighbourhoods, Community & Culture
Report Author	Mark Dalzell / Chris Highton
Public	Public

Community Safety

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report reviews the progress and approach to the Council’s community safety priorities delivered by the Community Safety Partnership

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 Members recognise and acknowledge the progress to date of the Community Safety Partnership in progressing the Community Safety Plan for the Borough.
- 2.2 Members review and consider the delivery plans for the priority areas.

3. Reason for Recommendation

- 3.1 The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) has a duty under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to draw up and implement a strategy for reducing crime and disorder in their area.
- 3.2 The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007 set out the way in which the responsible authorities should carry out their functions as a CSP under Section 6 of the Act, and require the preparation of a partnership plan for the local government area, setting out the CSP’s priorities.
- 3.3 The current plan covers the period of 2015 – 2018. A new plan is required to outline the priorities that are to be the focus of delivery plans by responsible authorities.

4.**Key Points for Consideration**

- 4.1 The Community Safety Plan for the Council was approved by Cabinet on the 27th August 2019 following a Strategic Threat Assessment to determine the local priority areas.
- 4.2 The revised plan has been informed by information from the residents' survey in 2018 and a strategic threat assessment that included qualitative and quantitative data to assess the scale, trend, intelligence assessment and knowledge of themes.
- 4.3 Themes considered included:
- Residential Burglary
 - Serious Violent Crime
 - Child Sexual Exploitation
 - Youth related anti-social behaviour
 - Modern Slavery
 - Domestic Abuse
 - Organised Crime
 - Substance Abuse – including drugs and new psychoactive substances
 - Night time economy and issues in our town centres
 - Community tensions
 - Sexual offences
 - Cyber Enable Fraud
- 4.4 Workshops with the responsible authorities ranked the thematic areas using a Management of Risk in Law Enforcement (MoRiLE) assessment model to rank the priority areas and create agreed priority work areas for the formulation of delivery plans to achieve the desired outcomes of the strategy.
- 4.5 The plan describes five priority areas to ensure that people and communities in Rochdale will be :
- Free from the harm of domestic abuse and violence
 - Free from the harm of organised crime
 - Safe from crime and antisocial behaviour
 - Able to enjoy themselves in the town centres
 - Able to live, work, learn and socialise in harmony
- 4.6 The plan takes account of and links to the priorities in The Police and Crime Plan, 'Standing Together' (Greater Manchester Combined Authority) and supports the outcomes identified by the Health and Wellbeing Board and the outcomes described in the Corporate Plan 2019 – 2022.

4.7 Delivery plans for the five areas are being developed by priority sub groups under the Safer Communities Partnership Board to take account of existing work streams, including the work of Safeguarding boards, to avoid duplication and to share information to maintain and further develop a partnership approach to community safety.

4.8 **PROGRESS TO DATE**

4.8.1 **Domestic Abuse**

4.8.1.1 Specific actions have been developed by the council and partners to deliver on the agreed outcomes identified as part of the strategic assessment.

4.8.1.2 Performance measures are under development and currently exist in draft form.

4.8.1.3 Details of the measures being undertaken to counter the high levels of domestic violence reported across the borough are contained in the current delivery plan presented in appendix 1.

4.8.1.4 A new domestic abuse steering group, with appropriate terms of reference, has been established to drive forward progress on a range of strategic issue relating to domestic abuse and its impact upon families and communities.

4.8.2 **Organised Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour**

4.8.2.1 The two priority areas of Organised Crime and Anti-Social behaviour have been combined under a Reducing Crime and ASB strategic group. This is due to the duplication of professionals involved and the overlapping work streams involved with each priority area.

4.8.2.2 The reducing crime and ASB group has ownership of the RSCP statutory responsibility for developing and implementing the reducing re-offending strategy and substance misuse strategy.

4.8.2.3 This priority is being Chaired by the newly appointed Chief Inspector Andy Riley of GMP.

4.8.2.4 The current Crime and ASB delivery plan is attached in Appendix 2

4.8.3 **Town Centres**

4.8.3.1 A delivery plan has been developed for this priority and has led to the creation of a Rochdale Town Centre Operational Group. This is a multi-agency group that meets every two weeks

4.8.3.2 The Town Centre Operational Support Group has been established to deal with a range operational issues relating to Rochdale Town Centre to

ensure that it is a safe, vibrant and attractive place that has a sense of identity, which is family orientated and welcoming to all. It must also be a place where businesses are allowed to develop and grow.

4.8.3.3 Actions will focus on:

- offering support and outreach work to individuals with complex needs such as substance miss-use and mental health issues.
- identifying issues of Homelessness in the Town Centre and ensuring that the appropriate referrals and support are in place.
- Engaging with Town Centre stakeholders such as the Town Centre Management Company, Rochdale Business Improvement District (BID) and Town Centre businesses.
- effectively sharing information for the purpose of reducing crime and disorder in the Town Centre.

4.8.3.4 The current delivery plan is attached in appendix 3

4.8.4 **Living, working, learning and socialising in harmony**

4.8.4.1 A new community cohesion, resilience and integration priority group has been established to:

- To help develop cohesive and resilient communities and promote integration.
- To better manage and understand the needs and expectations of communities.
- To encourage and facilitate greater levels of community engagement, dialogue and participation.
- To build on existing and develop new partnerships across the agencies and within communities.
- To commission, advise and support partners and community based organisations in the development and delivery of activities which contribute towards the priority groups objectives in the Borough of Rochdale
- To report to the Rochdale Safer Communities Partnership Board.

4.8.4.2 They key aims and objectives are:

- Effectively monitor tension indicators within communities by incorporating the information provided by key stakeholders and further developing the means to gather and collate information.
- Be able to recognise normal or “healthy” levels of tension and not inhibit freedom of speech.
- Challenge and respond to divisive narratives e.g. hate crime and other complex safeguarding vulnerabilities.

- Support the local and national strategies around cohesion, resilience, integration and safeguarding vulnerable persons / communities.
- Work together to promote a borough where people, whatever their background, live, work, learn and socialise together, based on shared rights, responsibilities and opportunities.
- Promote a borough, where many religions, cultures and opinions are celebrated, underpinned by a shared set of values that champion tolerance, freedom and equality of opportunity
- Support new and emerging communities to integrate and improve communities' ability to adapt to migration

4.8.4.3 The delivery plan is attached in appendix 4.

4.9 **Alternatives Considered**

None

5. Costs and Budget Summary

5.1 The Safer Communities Partnership delivers the community safety priorities with existing staffing and daily operational activities of services. Grant funding for projects is applied for annually from the combined authority in the form of a Police and Crime Grant. Other grants that are applied for annually include, voluntary and community sector grant fund and grant support for the community based domestic abuse service.

6. Risk and Policy Implications
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6.1 There are risks associated with community safety that must be mitigated through a partnership response to emerging threats and intelligence. The Community Safety Plan is reviewed annually to ensure that the priorities are aligned appropriately.

6.2 Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, as amended by the Police and Justice Act 2006, requires responsible authorities to consider crime and disorder (including antisocial behaviour and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment); and the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in the exercise of all their duties, activities and decision-making. This means that in all policies, strategies and service delivery there is a need to consider the likely impact on crime and disorder.

6.3 The CSP must implement and monitor strategies for reducing crime and disorder, reducing re-offending and tackling substance misuse.

7. Consultation

7.1 Residents Survey - 2018
Communities, Regeneration and Environment O & S – 21 November 2018
Safer Communities' Partnership Board – 23rd April 2019
Cabinet - 27th August 2019

Background Papers	Place of Inspection
None	N/A
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