

**POLICY AND RESOURCES
CABINET BOARD**

10th FEBRUARY 2010

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE

**HEAD OF CORPORATE STRATEGY
P. GRAHAM**

INDEX OF REPORT ITEM

PART 1. Doc Code: PRB-100211-REP-CE-PG

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CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY 2011 – POTENTIAL WORK AREAS

1 Purpose of the Report

To seek Cabinet Board and Scrutiny Committee agreement on the Scrutiny Committee's first topic for scrutiny in its role as the Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee.

2 Background

Members will be aware that the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee has been designated as the Committee with responsibility for Crime and Disorder Scrutiny.

The Cabinet Board and Scrutiny Committee approved a crime and disorder scrutiny protocol in November 2010 following consultation with the Safer Neath Port Talbot Partnership and its constituent members.

In considering potential topics for scrutiny, it is important to re-emphasise that it is the strategies, plans, policies and actions of the Safer Neath Port Talbot Partnership which are subject to scrutiny and not those of individual partners.

3 Potential Areas for Scrutiny

The attached Appendix 1 sets out the Safer Neath Port Talbot Partnership's current key priorities, which, in effect, sets out the potential areas for scrutiny subject to the remits of other Scrutiny Committees, e.g. young people issues would normally fall within the purview of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee.

The Safer Neath Port Talbot Partnership and the Safer Neath Port Talbot Member Briefing Group have been giving consideration to what might be useful topics for the Committee's first piece of crime and disorder scrutiny.

A clear issue which emerged from these discussions was the difference between the recorded low levels of crime and disorder in Neath Port Talbot and the perceptions of local citizens and communities. The Partnership recognises this "reassurance gap" and works hard to close it. Therefore, a useful area for scrutiny is considered to be the Partnership's community engagement activities.

This would include not only the Partnership's general communication and promotional activities but also a review of the current PACT (Partnership and Communities Together) arrangements. The review could also include a review of current PACT priorities across the county borough, including an assessment of partners' success in addressing these issues. This may lead to referrals to other Scrutiny Committees.

It is suggested that, as with other in-depth reviews, this review be undertaken on a task and finish basis.

4 Recommendation:

Subject to Members' views it is recommended that the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee undertake a scrutiny review of the Safer Neath Port Talbot Partnership's community engagement activities.

Reasons for Proposed Decision:

The need to identify a crime and disorder issue for scrutiny and the potential contribution to be made to the Safer Neath Port Talbot Partnership's community engagement activities, including the positive impacts of these activities on local citizens and communities

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Safer Neath Port Talbot Partnership's current priorities

List of Background Papers:

Welsh Assembly Government Guidance Circular No. 001/2010
Cabinet/Cabinet Scrutiny Report 16th September 2009
Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee Reports and associated minutes:
19th March 2010, 30th July 2010 and 11th November 2010.

Wards Affected:

All

Valleys Strategy:

Positive impact

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COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

CRIME AND DISORDER SCRUTINY 2011 **POTENTIAL WORK AREAS**

(a) **Implementation of Decision:**

The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call-in period.

(b) **Sustainability Appraisal:**

Community Plan Impacts

Economic Prosperity	-	no impact
Education & Lifelong Learning	-	positive impacts
Better Health & Well Being	-	positive impacts
Environment & Transport	-	no impact
Crime & Disorder	-	positive impacts

Other Impacts

Welsh Language	-	no impact
Sustainable Development	-	no impact
Equalities	-	positive impacts
Social Inclusion	-	positive impacts

(c) **Consultation**

There has been no requirement under the constitution for external consultation on this item.

5. KEY PRIORITIES (2010 – 2013 Plan)

The Plan includes eight themes reflecting the local priorities identified by the assessment process, as well as national priorities and the priorities of the participating partners. There are many cross-cutting elements, and Safer NPT partners work together to tackle these community safety issues.

The eight thematic priorities are:

Crime and the Fear of Crime

- Violent Crime
- Serious Acquisitive Crime
- E-Crime
- Tackling the fear of crime and improving residents sense of security in their community

Prolific and Other Priority Offenders

- Evaluating the effectiveness of the implementation of the ‘walkthrough’ action plan
- Implementing the South Wales Deter Young Offender Protocol
- Developing the ‘Breaking the Cycle’ initiative
- Providing support and guidance for PPOs to gain the necessary skills to achieve employment
- Providing supported housing services for PPOs on release from prison

Anti-social Behaviour

- Continuing to developing strategies to tackle anti-social behaviour
- Raising public awareness and perceptions about anti-social behaviour
- Implementing the findings from the ASB ‘Lean System Review’ 2009
- Adapting processes to meet the needs of repeat victims

Domestic Abuse

- Increasing awareness and understanding of domestic abuse
- Tackling the problem of repeat victimisation
- Increasing awareness raising to specific groups
- Improving young people's awareness and understanding of domestic abuse/healthy relationships
- Continuing to maintain and develop support networks for victims and children of domestic abuse
- Holding perpetrators accountable for their actions
- Improving recording systems

Substance Misuse

- Reducing the supply and use of Class A drugs
- Reducing alcohol related crimes
- Evaluating the impact of the social work service within CDAT
- Increasing awareness of the dangers of substance misuse
- Reducing waiting lists for substance misuse assessments
- Implementing the recommendations of the Substance Misuse Service Review

Young People

- Reducing re-offending
- Reducing the number of first-time entrants
- Reducing the use of custody
- Implement the findings of the evaluation of prevention services
- Implement the action plan from the inspections and local management reviews for YOT

Deliberate Fires

- Reducing the number of deliberate fires
- Continuing the reduction of the number of secondary fires, particularly grass fires
- Implementing engagement activities to reduce unwanted fire alarms
- Continuing to raise awareness of deliberate fires

Partnership Working

- Continuing to use intelligence-led and tasking approaches
- Continuing to develop and implement an effective communications strategy
- Continuing to reassure and increase public confidence
- Implementing more effective evaluation processes
- Increasing creativity, innovation and collaboration
- Evaluating the Partnership's performance against the Hallmarks of Effective Partnership Working
- Responding positively to the outcomes of the Children's and Young People's services system review
- Working with the Local Children's Safeguarding Board to ensure that all of Safer NPT's activities where appropriate include a focus on safeguarding children and young people
- Continuing to develop and implement Safer NPT's PREVENT local action plan
- Ensuring the Partnership priorities are undertaken and complements other partnerships priorities