

WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

CABINET MEETING
29th JUNE 2006

End of Year 2005/06 Performance of The Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership

OPEN	
COMMUNITY STRATEGY THEME	Safer Communities
CORPORATE PLAN THEME:	Enabling Community Wellbeing
KEY PRIORITY:	Community Safety
CABINET MEMBER:	Cllr. Nathan Desmond
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	Chief Executive
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APPENDICES	None

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To report end of year 2005/06 performance of the Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership (WFCSP) in reducing crime, disorder and anti social behaviour in the Wyre Forest District.

2. RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet is asked to DECIDE that:

- 2.1 **The performance of the Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership for 2005/06 in reducing crime, disorder and anti social behaviour in the Wyre Forest District be noted.**
- 2.2 **The proposed merger of the Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership with the Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership and Redditch Community Safety Partnership, to form a North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership, be supported in principle.**

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 In April 2005, three year reduction targets were negotiated and agreed by the WFCSP with Government Office West Midlands (GOWM) for the following British Crime Survey (BCS) Comparator Crimes for the Wyre Forest District.
- a) Criminal Damage
 - b) Common Assault
 - c) Wounding
 - d) Vehicle Crime (theft of motor vehicle / from motor vehicle / vehicle interference)
 - e) Overall reduction of BCS Comparator Crimes

- 3.2 GOWM monitors the WFCSP's performance of meeting yearly milestones of the above targets on a monthly basis. This performance is reported on a quarterly basis to the WFCSP's Steering Group.
- 3.3 The Council's representatives on the WFCSP Steering Group are the Cabinet Member for Community and Leisure Services, the Strategy, Partnerships and Communications Manager, and the Community Safety and Partnerships Officer, who is also the co-ordinator of the WFCSP.

4. PERFORMANCE OF WFCSP

- 4.1 A statistical breakdown of the WFCSP's end of year 2005/06 performance in delivering the BCS Comparator Crime Targets is set out in Chart 1.

Chart 1

Category of Crime	Baseline Number of crimes 2003/04	Number of crimes April 04 – March 2005	Number of crimes April 05 to March 2006	% Reduction in number of crimes 2003/04 – 2005/06	Rank in family group *	Status of progress
Total number of British Crime Survey Comparator Crimes	6020	5454	4485	25.5	4	Ahead of target
Criminal Damage	2266	2156	1873	17.3	2	Ahead of target
Common Assault	461	339	168	63.5	2	Ahead of target
Wounding	1081	1014	799	26	6	Ahead of target
Vehicle Crime	1502	1279	1121	25.3	12,5,10	Ahead of target
<p>* Family Group Rank – There are 15 Community Safety Partnerships in the Family Grouping therefore 1 = best performance and 15 = worst performance</p> <p>Definitions for each category of crime are available in the glossary of the Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2005-08</p>						

- 4.2 The WFCSP's strong performance has resulted in an overall reduction of BCS Comparator Crimes of 25.5% from 2003/04 to 2005/06. This is very encouraging when compared to the target reduction agreed with GOWM of 18% between 2003/04 and 2007/08.

- 4.3 In terms of the overall Family Group Ranking, for year 2005/06 the WFCSP finished
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4th out of 15, where 1 = best performance and 15 = worst performance.

- 4.4 Members are reminded that monthly crime, disorder and anti social behaviour statistics for all Wards can be accessed from the Community Safety Section of the Council's Intranet.
- 4.5 The majority of the WFCSP's key achievements since April 2005 were reported to Cabinet on 22nd December 2005, however other significant achievements since then include:
- a) Led the development of the Local Public Service Agreement Second Generation (LPSA 2) and successfully negotiated district wide crime and fire reduction targets with GOWM;
 - b) Led in conjunction with the other district community safety partnerships in Worcestershire the development of the Safer Communities Block of the Local Area Agreement and successfully negotiated £107,000 for local projects, which we are awaiting final confirmation on; and
 - c) Set up the WFCSP Tasking Group, which is aimed at bringing together representatives of partner organisations who can directly or indirectly deploy resources. The key objective is to identify common problems across agencies, and tackle them in partnership. Meetings take place on a monthly basis and are informed by an evidence base developed by the WFCSP Analyst.

5. KEY ISSUES

- 5.1 The WFCSP will need to maintain and build upon its 2005/06 performance of reducing crime, disorder and anti social behaviour in the Wyre Forest District. This will also include the delivery of the LPSA 2 crime and fire targets for the area.
- 5.2 In June 2006, discussions will commence with the Redditch Community Safety Partnership and Bromsgrove Community Safety Partnership respectively, to explore a proposed merger with the WFCSP to create a North Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership. This approach was endorsed by the WFCSP on 13th April 2006 and will be in line with recommendations recently published by Government on the merger of Community Safety Partnerships, which were reported to Cabinet on 27th April 2006.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no specific financial implications in connection with this report.

7. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The WFCSP will continue to deliver the three year Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2005/08.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 8.1 There are no current risk management issues in connection with this report.

9. CONCLUSION

- 9.1 The WFCSP will continue to respond accordingly to changes in the levels of crime and disorder, anti social behaviour and the misuse of drugs in the District. Regular monitoring of performance will help the Partnership to work towards its vision of *'Wyre Forest – An even safer place to live, work, visit or do business in'*.

10. CONSULTEES

- Cabinet Member for Community and Leisure Services
- CMT

11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Cabinet Report 22nd December 2005 – Wyre Forest Community Safety Strategy – Progress Report
- Cabinet Report 27th April 2006 – Government Review of Partnership Provision of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998

2nd June 2006