

## WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL

**CABINET**  
**26TH JULY 2007**

### **End of Year Performance (2006/07) of the Wyre Forest District Local Public Service Agreement 2 (LPSA 2)**

	Open
<b>COMMUNITY STRATEGY THEME:</b>	Safer Communities
<b>CORPORATE PLAN THEME:</b>	Enabling Community Wellbeing
<b>KEY PRIORITY:</b>	Community Safety
<b>CABINET MEMBER:</b>	Councillor Nathan Desmond
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:</b>	Walter Delin
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<b>APPENDICES</b>	None

#### **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To report the end of year performance (2006/07) of the Wyre Forest District Local Public Service Agreement 2 (LPSA 2), which focuses on crime and fire reduction targets.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**CABINET is asked to DECIDE that:**

- 2.1 Performance of the LPSA 2 targets be reported to Cabinet on a quarterly basis.
- 2.2 It welcomes the capacity review into the delivery of the LPSA 2 targets by the Council's Community and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Committee and will await to receive recommendations from this.

#### **3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The three year (1<sup>st</sup> April 2006 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009) LPSA 2 crime and fire targets for the Wyre Forest District were negotiated between the Home Office and the Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership (WFCSP) and form part of the Safer Communities Block of the Local Area Agreement (LAA) for Worcestershire.
- 3.2 To support delivery of the targets a £100,000 pump priming grant has been awarded to the WFCSP and if on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009 the targets have been met or exceeded there is the potential of drawing down a reward grant of £1 million pounds for Worcestershire from Central Government.

- 3.3 However, the reward grant will be dependent on both Redditch Community Safety Partnership and the South Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership meeting or exceeding their LPSA 2 crime and fire targets, as Home Office negotiations between the three partnerships included a Worcestershire wide crime target, which also has to be met.
- 3.4 Therefore the achievement of the LPSA 2 crime and fire targets by the three Community Safety Partnerships could potentially bring in £3 million pounds for Worcestershire, as each partnership has the ability to earn a £1 million pound reward grant.
- 3.5 Reward grant monies would be passported from Government to Worcestershire County Council as the accountable body for the LAA on behalf of the Worcestershire Partnership. It is understood that the Worcestershire Partnership Management Group would be responsible for determining the distribution and use of any reward grant monies.

#### **4. PROGRESS**

- 4.1 Following a comprehensive review of crime and fire activity in the district, the WFCSP agreed that the following hotspot areas would need to be focused on to achieve the LPSA 2 targets:
- a) Oldington and Foley Park Ward
  - b) Broadwaters Ward
  - c) Greenhill Ward (Kidderminster Town Centre will be focused on separately)
  - d) Kidderminster Town Centre
  - e) Plus other smaller areas in the district e.g. the Walshes
- 4.2 For each geographical area, quarterly targets for the three year period have been set for the following categories of crime and fire, as agreed by the Home Office:
- f) Criminal Damage
  - g) Theft of a Vehicle
  - h) Theft from a Vehicle
  - i) Domestic Burglaries
  - j) Wounding
  - k) Common Assault
  - l) Deliberate primary and secondary fires
- 4.3 Achievement of the quarterly targets will help to keep the WFCSP on course for meeting or exceeding the three year district wide targets that have been agreed.
- 4.4 Structures and mechanisms for the delivery of the LPSA 2 targets for the above areas were agreed by the WFCSP as follows:
- Neighbourhood Management Pathfinder for 4.1(a)
  - Wyre Forest Matters Partnership (WFMP) for 4.1 (b) and (c)
  - KRISP through the Kidderminster Town Centre Partnership 4.1 (d)
  - WFCSP for 4.1 (e)
- 4.5 The decision to commission the WFMP to deliver the LPSA 2 targets in 4.1(b)

and (c) and to passport the £100,000 pump priming money for this purpose was made following a formal approach to the WFCSP on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2006. WFMP advised that the LPSA 2 targets would compliment their comprehensive programme of activity and investment to improve the quality of life in these areas over the next couple of years.

- 4.6 Therefore, for financial, delivery and performance accountability, a Service Level Agreement between the WFCSP and WFMP has been drawn up.
- 4.7 Currently the WFCSP monitors all LPSA 2 performance on a quarterly basis at both Steering Group and LPSA 2 Working Group meetings.

**5. END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE 2006/07**

- 5.1 Despite strong performance at the beginning of the year, the end of year performance for the district wide crime targets is rather disappointing with only two of the six targets being achieved. This is as a result of poor performance within some of the geographical areas.
- 5.2 Chart 1 provides a non statistical summary of the end of year (2006/07) LPSA 2 crime reduction performance. A cross in the box indicates non achievement of target, whilst a tick indicates achievement of target.

<b>Chart 1 - End of Year Performance (2006/07) LPSA 2 Crime Reduction Targets</b>						
<b>Geographical Areas</b>	<b>Criminal Damage</b>	<b>Theft of Vehicle</b>	<b>Theft from a Vehicle</b>	<b>Domestic Burglary</b>	<b>Wounding</b>	<b>Common Assault</b>
Oldington and Foley Park Ward	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Broadwaters Ward	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓
Greenhill Ward (Excluding Kidderminster Town Centre)	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓
Kidderminster Town Centre	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Wyre Forest District	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗

- 5.3 It should also be noted that the district wide fire target for 2006/07 was achieved.
- 5.4 A full statistical breakdown of end of year performance 2006/07 for both crime and fire LPSA 2 targets can be obtained from the WFCSP's data analyst.
- 5.5 Concern over the poor performance in the Broadwaters and Greenhill (excluding Kidderminster Town Centre) Wards has already been expressed by the WFCSP to the Chairman of the WFMP. An assurance has been given that the situation is being monitored closely and the need to build capacity for the co-ordination and delivery of activity has been recognised and will be addressed.
- 5.6 Discussions have also taken place with the Chairperson of the Kidderminster

Town Centre Community Safety Partnership Working Group with regard to the WFCSP offering any assistance with specific initiatives as required for delivery of the Kidderminster Town Centre targets.

- 5.7 On the 12<sup>th</sup> July 2007, the WFCSP Steering Group reviewed the above performance. The following points for action were agreed to strengthen existing delivery, monitoring and reporting arrangements:
- a) That delivery plans for each category of crime shall now be monitored on a monthly basis at WFCSP Tasking meetings rather than on a quarterly basis;
  - b) Where performance is below target, weekly reports will be issued by the appropriate lead officer to the Chairman of the WFCSP, until progress is back on target. This approach has already been piloted with vehicle crime and has been successful;
  - c) Geographical action plans will be integrated into the main district wide delivery plans enabling easier monitoring procedures for the WFCSP, who are ultimately responsible for the delivery of the LPSA 2 crime and fire targets;
  - d) Extra capacity within the current Community Safety Team will be created by enhancing the current role of the WFCSP Administration and Support Officer post to take a lead on specific LPSA 2 activities as determined by the WFCSP Chairman;
  - e) A review of the above arrangements will be undertaken in December 2007 to ensure they are proving effective and performance is improving.
- 5.8 The Council's Community and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Committee is currently reviewing the capacity of those community safety bodies who are involved in the delivery of the LPSA 2 crime and fire targets.
- 5.9 It is therefore expected that there will be recommendations from the review for consideration by the Council's Cabinet later this year.

## **6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 At this stage, there are no direct financial implications arising from this report for Wyre Forest District Council, as they can currently be funded by the WFCSP.
- 6.2 However, if performance in achieving the targets has not improved by December 2007, there may be a need to increase capacity even further. If this were to happen there would be an expectation that all partners would provide some financial assistance to achieve this.

## **7. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 Under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Council has a statutory duty to ensure the delivery of its services helps to reduce crime and disorder across the district.

## **8. RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 8.1 Non achievement of the Wyre Forest District LPSA 2 crime and fire targets will not only lose the WFCSP's potential of attracting a £1 million pound reward grant, it will also jeopardise the ability of both Redditch Community Safety

Partnership and the South Worcestershire Community Safety Partnership in gaining their £1 million pound reward grant each, as it would be unlikely that the Worcestershire wide target could be met.

**9. CONCLUSION**

9.1 It should not be underestimated that the LSPA 2 crime and fire targets provide a significant challenge for the WFCSP in what is already considered to be a low crime area. However partners are committed to their delivery and will strive to improve performance to secure achievement of the targets set.

**10. CONSULTEES**

- Chief Executive
- Cabinet Member for Community and Leisure Services

**11. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- Local Area Agreement for Worcestershire 2006-2009
- Service Level Agreement between the Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership and Wyre Forest Matters Partnership