

**WYRE FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**CABINET**  
**26<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008**

**Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership Plan 2008/11**

<b>OPEN</b>	
<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>	Cllr. Nathan Desmond
<b>RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:</b>	Linda Collis
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<b>APPENDICES</b>	A copy of the 'Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership Plan 2008-11' has been placed in the Members' Lounge and a copy is available on the Council's Website and Intranet. (A public inspection copy is available please see front cover for details).

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To consider the Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership Plan 2008/11 for adoption.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

The Cabinet is asked to **RECOMMEND** to Council that:

- 2.1 The Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership Plan 2008-11, which focuses on strategic priorities for criminal damage, vehicle crime, violent crime and public perception, be adopted.
- 2.2 The Council, in its role as a 'Responsible Authority', as defined by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, fully support the Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership in the delivery of the Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership Plan 2008-11.

**3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership (WFCSP) was established in 1998 in order to meet the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (CDA). The Act places a duty on Wyre Forest District Council and other statutory bodies to work together to reduce crime and disorder, anti social behaviour, the harm caused by substance misuse and other behaviour adversely affecting the environment.

- 3.2 The CDA placed a statutory requirement on the WFCSP to undertake a triennial crime and disorder audit and produce a three year Community Safety Strategy for the District. The last Community Safety Strategy, for the period April 2005 to 31 March 2008, was published in April 2005.
- 3.3 In 2006, a review of the partnership provisions of the CDA and the Police Reform Act 2002 led to a series of recommendations. The CDA included a requirement to produce a detailed crime and disorder audit; consult with key agencies and the wider community; use the findings to identify strategic priorities and set targets and performance measures. The review sought to strengthen and extend these requirements further, based on the experience gained through partnership working. As a result, a new set of national minimum standards came into force in August 2007.
- 3.4 Responsible authorities have a legal obligation to comply with the requirements, which include the placing of a duty on the partnership to prepare a crime and disorder strategic assessment on behalf of the responsible authorities.
- 3.5 The purpose of the strategic assessment is to provide knowledge and understanding of community safety problems that will inform and enable partners to:
  - a) Understand the patterns, trends and shifts relating to crime and disorder, anti social behaviour, the harm caused by substance misuse and other behaviour adversely affecting the environment;
  - b) Set clear and robust priorities for the partnership;
  - c) Develop activity that is driven by reliable intelligence and meets the needs of the local community;
  - d) Deploy resources effectively and present value for money; and
  - e) Undertake annual reviews and plan activity based on a clear understanding of the issues and priorities.
- 3.6 Following completion of the strategic assessment, partnerships are required to produce a three year rolling plan that must be refreshed on an annual basis following a further annual strategic assessment.

#### **4. KEY ISSUES**

- 4.1 The purpose of the Partnership Plan (Appendix One) is to clearly show the crime and disorder priorities for Wyre Forest, identified in the Strategic Assessment and set a strategy detailing how these will be tackled. The Plan includes the targets the Partnership needs to reach and what outcomes it expects to have. It also covers the structure of the Partnership and how the priorities will be delivered. This was one of the key changes recommended from the Review of the Crime and Disorder Act.
- 4.2 Information is included on partners involved in supporting delivery of the Plan, with lead partner responsibilities identified. Where appropriate, links are also shown to new National Indicators (NIs) and Public Service Agreements (PSAs).

- 4.3 The strategic priorities which have been identified are:
- a) Criminal Damage
  - b) Vehicle Crime
  - c) Violent Crime
  - d) Public Perception of Crime
- 4.4 Reducing the harm caused by illegal drugs and alcohol cuts across all priorities.
- 4.5 High level delivery plans have been developed for each of the strategic priorities. These can be found in Appendix One of the Plan. In year one of the Plan, WFCSP will be focusing on the delivery of the LAA Reward / LPSA 2 crime and fire targets, which if met by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009 would attract a reward grant of £1 million for Worcestershire. The WFCSP's operational arm, CDRP Tasking, has action plans in place regarding the LAA reward / LPSA 2 targets and work is already underway to achieve the targets.
- 4.6 The target setting process is currently being discussed as part of the development of the County's second Local Area Agreement.
- 4.7 The Partnership Plan is required to be reviewed and refreshed accordingly on an annual basis in line with the strategic assessment. Therefore the Plan will be updated in March 2009 along with the associated action plans.

## **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no additional costs to Wyre Forest District Council associated with the delivery of the Plan.
- 5.2 In terms of resources available to the WFCSP to deliver the Plan, the majority of these will come from existing mainstreamed services operating within partner organisations. The Partnership has an amount of funding made available through the Area Based Grant managed by Worcestershire County Council and is in receipt of financial contributions from a number of partners. This fund is managed locally by the Partnership via the Partnership Co-ordinator and will be used to commission work, against local priorities, on an intelligence led basis.

## **6. LEGAL AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 As a responsible authority, the preparation and implementation of the Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership Plan fulfils the Council's statutory responsibilities as outlined in the CDA.
- 6.2 The publication of a Partnership Plan is a statutory requirement.

## **7. RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 7.1 The WFCSP will produce a risk register which will be an integral part of the Plan.

## **8. CONCLUSION**

- 8.1 The Wyre Forest Community Safety Partnership Plan sets out the priorities for making the District an even safer place to live work and do business in over the next three years and fulfils the Council's statutory duty as a responsible authority.

## **9. CONSULTEES**

- Cabinet Member for Community and Corporate Services
- Corporate Management Team
- Head of Community and Partnership Services

## **10. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- Crime and Disorder Act 1998 as amended by the Police Reform Act 2002
- The Police and Justice Act 2006
- Delivering Safer Communities: *'Guide to Effective Partnership Working – September 2007'*

27 May 2008