

## COMMUNITY & SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

21 SEPTEMBER 2011

### REPORT OF THE HEAD OF COMMUNITIES AND NEIGHBOURHOODS

#### DRAFT COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY

#### 1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide an overview of the draft Safer Melton Partnership Community Safety Plan for 2011-2014 period.
- 1.2 To update members on community safety performance (2008-2011) and the activity of Melton Borough Council and its Partners in tackling crime and anti-social behaviour.

#### 2.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 Members note and comment on the draft Community Safety Plan 2011-2014 and the priorities and outcomes identified within (Appendix A).
- 2.2 Members note the successful performance over the period 2008-2011.

#### 3.0 KEY ISSUES

##### Performance

- 3.1 Melton Borough Council has worked closely with partners over the last 3 years to implement a programme of activities designed to create communities that are and feel safe. This activity has seen all crime fall by 23.7% and reported Anti-Social Behaviour fall by 36%, with key reductions achieved within priority neighbourhoods. This activity has included, for example:

- Family Intervention Project supporting vulnerable families.
- Pathways project working to reintegrate ex-offenders and support those at risk.
- Circles of Need Project working to provide effective and efficient Anti-Social Behaviour Services.
- Commissioning of Victim Support to support ASB victims.
- Alcohol and Substance Misuse Advice Clinics to support families and individuals with high levels of need.
- A range of diversionary and preventative projects working with at risk individuals delivered during Easter, summer and other peak times.
- Enforcement campaigns, CCTV development and other crime prevention initiatives.
- Domestic Abuse Outreach services, awareness campaigns and projects to reduce repeat victimisation.

##### Community Safety Plan

- 3.2 The Safer Melton Partnership (SMP) formed as a result of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 which placed a statutory duty on Melton Borough Council to work in partnership with a number of agencies (includes the Police, Police Authority, County Council, Fire Authority, Probation Trust, Primary Care Trust) in order to implement a community safety plan designed to reduce crime and disorder within the local authority area.

3.3 Every three years the partnership is required to produce a three year plan which is informed by a strategic assessment of crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour and includes information collected from consultation with the wider public. A review of the Police and Justice Act 2006 now requires the Partnership to review the plan annually through a strategic assessment to ensure it remains relevant and tackling the issues that matter most to the community.

3.4 2011/12 sees the implementation of a new community safety plan for the Borough of Melton. The Community Safety Plan 2011-2014 outlines the main priorities for the SMP, with regard to crime, disorder and other aspects of safety for communities. For each priority the partnership has identified what we want to achieve and how we will work to achieve this. The priorities identified for this year and for the immediate future are:

<b>Community Safety Plan 2011-2014 Priorities</b>	
1.	Tackling anti-social behaviour and enhancing public confidence.
2.	Tackling domestic abuse.
3.	Tackling serious acquisitive crime including domestic burglary.
4.	Enhancing road safety.
5.	Creating a safe town centre by reducing alcohol related violence, criminal damage, purse dipping and theft.
6.	Reducing rural crime including burglary other than dwellings.
7.	Supporting priority neighbourhoods and those areas with the highest levels of crime and anti-social behaviour.
8.	Reduce re-offending and providing effective support and intervention to those offenders who commit disproportionate amounts of crime and anti-social behaviour.

3.5 The plan and it's priorities supports the delivery of the Melton Sustainable Community Strategy and aligns to the People and Place focus of the authority. The priorities will be refreshed annually to ensure they remain relevant and the SMP are investing resources in the right areas.

#### **4.0 POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The activity of Melton Borough Council and the SMP has contributed towards the (previous) community safety corporate priorities and now those priorities under people and places and priority neighbourhoods.

4.2 Projects such as the Circles of Need also help contribute to other a Well Run council, whilst providing the opportunity to identify how services can be delivered more effectively and efficiently.

#### **5.0 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 There are no financial implications for Melton Borough Council arising from this report, however the report acknowledges the potential risk and impact of reductions in funding for the Safer Melton Partnership.

## 6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/POWERS

6.1 No direct issues have been identified through the implementation of the Community Safety Plan. Changes in legal powers around anti-social behaviour will provide additional and revised powers for the Council and partnership to tackle ASB. The introduction of the Police Crime Commissioner in 2012 also brings unknowns, particularly in relation to funding.

## 7.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY

7.1 The community safety plan and the priorities and activities within will have a significant impact on crime, anti-social behaviour and public confidence within the Borough whilst improving life chances for our most vulnerable people. Continued activity will help to reduce the fear of crime, increase reassurance, and contribute to the crime targets of the Safer Melton Partnership.

7.2 The Community Safety Plan 2011-2014 aligns with the Sustainable Communities Strategy and the People and Places agenda of Melton Borough Council.

## 8.0 EQUALITIES

The SMP is committed to serving all members of its communities effectively, and ensuring that all actions and plans consider implications for a variety of different groups and sections of the community. It will work to ensure people are not excluded or disadvantaged because of their Race, Disability, Gender, Age, Religion and belief, or Sexual Orientation.

In order to develop a better understanding of its communities and ensure that any negative consequences for a particular group or section of the community are eliminated, minimised or counterbalanced by other measures the Partnership will use relevant information from its partners to produce an Equality Impact Assessment for this Community Safety Plan.

## 9.0 RISKS

A detailed risk register will be drawn up for this project.

### Probability

↑	Very High A				
	High B				
	Significant C			2	
	Low D				
	Very Low E			3	
	Almost Impossible F			1	
		IV Negligible	III Marginal	II Critical	I Catastrophic
		→ Impact			

Risk No.	Description
1	Lack of key partner buy in and delivery on key priorities.
2	Lack of sustainable funding to maintain community safety based activities and posts.
3	Community safety targets are not met.

## 10.0 CLIMATE CHANGE

10.1 There are no issues relating to climate change arising from this report.

## 11.0 **CONSULTATION**

11.1 The SMP is committed to ensuring the work of the partnership is informed by engagement with local communities. As per statutory requirements the partnership must utilise consultation for the purposes of the annual strategic assessment in order to ensure the priorities identified within the plan are pertinent to the community as a whole. To achieve this SMP will support and make active use of the available community engagement channels on an annual basis, including Resident Groups, Area Forums and Weeks of Action.

## 12.0 **WARDS AFFECTED**

12.1 All wards are affected.

Contact Officer: Kevin Quinn, Team Leader Community Safety

Date: 23 September 2011

Appendices: A: Draft Community Safety Plan (2011-2014)

Background Papers: None

Reference: X: C'tees, Council & Sub-C'tees/CSA/210911/HR – Community Safety Strategy