

Briefing Note for Equalities & Communities Theme Group

Community Safety Partnership Priorities & Activities

The Coventry Community Safety Partnership (CCSP) is a statutory body introduced through the Crime & Disorder Act 1998. This legislation requires the Police, Local Authority, Fire Service, Primary Care Trust and Police Authority to work together to address local crime and disorder issues including drug and alcohol misuse. The CCSP consists of a broad range of organisations and plays a key role in the annual production of a Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment and 3 Year Community Safety Plan.

The 2009/10 Strategic Assessment is currently being finalised and this will set the priorities and planning for the next 12 months. The emerging themes contained within the Strategic Assessment include:

- Violent crime (including domestic violence)
- Burglary and Vehicle Crime
- Criminal Damage & Anti-Social Behaviour

In addition, there have been some cross cutting issues identified such as drugs and alcohol.

The development of the Strategic Assessment has allowed the partnership to consider the impacts of offending behaviour on local communities in particular the document profiles the details of victims, offenders and locations, where this information is available.

The Community Safety Partnership Delivery framework currently consists of a range of programme delivery groups who are responsible for specific themes (appendix 1). The development of the Strategic Assessment has led us to review the existing structure and this work is currently taking place. The Partnership is very keen to ensure that there is a good understanding and sufficient focus provided on all three strands – victim, offender, location.

Whilst the Partnership benefits from a range of information from the different agencies and has a range of multi-agency forums that meet to develop local policies and action plans it is very important that there is a local dimension to this work. This is brought together through the 21 Safer Neighbourhood Groups (SNGs) that take place monthly across the City.

The SNGs are chaired by the local Community Safety Officer who works within Neighbourhood Management. The meetings currently operate in two halves. Part One provides the opportunity for invited residents, Elected Members, housing associations, police, fire service, youth offending service, schools, voluntary organisations, etc to meet and share information/intelligence on local issues and to put solutions in place where possible at that level. Part Two consists of a limited number of agencies who are actively case managing local offenders/families. These discussions ensure that the range of enforcement and support services are working together and being delivered effectively.

SNGs are only one of the mechanisms locally for people to identify local issues, share intelligence, etc as this also happens in a number of other ways including community walkabouts, street briefings, Elected Member Surgeries, Ward Forums, Police Consultative Committees, etc.

There is a wide range of work that is happening across the city on a number of different agendas. There are a range of action plans in place being actively delivered in relation to:

- Domestic Violence & Abuse
- Violent Crime
- Hate Crime
- Drug Misuse
- Alcohol Misuse
- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Environmental Crime

If the CCSP is going to deliver on all of these areas of work and really make a difference within local communities, the role of the Coventry Partnership will be critical. One of the key ways of reducing crime is offender management and to effectively do this we need to work closely with a range of agencies and be able to influence services that can provide the social support that offenders need to reduce/stop their offending like housing, employment, training, drug/alcohol treatment.