

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING	Communities Transport and Environment Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel
MEETING	22nd May 2017
TITLE:	Community Safety Scrutiny Inquiry Day
WARD:	All
LIKELY TO BE TAKEN IN EXEMPT	
List of attachments to this report: Appendix 1: Draft Terms of Reference for Community Safety Scrutiny Inquiry Day	

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 A number of wide ranging changes from the election of PCC, funding, and the increased recognition of the role of Councils and Partners can play in tackling a wide range of community Safety & Public Protection issues have prompted many local Authorities to consider their roles and responsibilities and explore how best to deliver their community safety functions.

In the context of significant changes to the landscape for local community safety services, this scrutiny Inquiry day has been prompted to examine our current picture and challenges and how best to shape our services for the future.

The purpose of this CTE Panel inquiry day is to examine what is needed from Council services in the community safety context and how best might this be delivered.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Communities Transport and Environment Policy Development & Scrutiny Panel is asked to;

- 2.1 Consider and approve the draft terms of reference for the Scrutiny Inquiry Day work and make any further comments on the terms of reference at its draft stage
- 2.2 Agree to undertake the review within the timescales set out in the terms of reference.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 3.1 The review must be completed within the resources available to the Communities, Transport and Environment Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL

- 5 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 gave local authorities and police services duties to work together to develop crime and disorder audits and implement reduction strategies and to work in partnership with other agencies - community safety partnerships (csps) - to tackle identified problems. Over the years this has evolved through legislation and practice.
- 6 A report sent to council in May 2009, designated the Safer & Stronger Communities Overview & Scrutiny panel as the dedicated panel for responding to community safety issues. This is now the role of the Communities Transport & Environment Policy Development & Scrutiny panel (CTE) the panel will *scrutinise the work of the responsible authorities group* ¹(RAG) to ensure that it is focused on the areas of most importance to the public. Further to the Police and Justice Act 2006 (and associated regulations), the designated crime and disorder panel in relation to responsible authorities (or co-operating bodies or persons) may:-
- a. review the decisions and performance at least once per year;
 - b. with reasonable notice, require the attendance of an officer or employee to answer questions, and more recently to include the new Police and Crime Commissioner
 - c. require a response in writing to reports and recommendations of the Panel within 28 days, or as soon as reasonably possible

7 THE REPORT

5.1 Refer to Appendix 1 Draft Terms of Reference

8 RATIONALE

8.1 N/A

9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 N/A

10 CONSULTATION

10.1 Cabinet Member; Children & Young People Policy Development and Scrutiny Panels; Staff; Health & Wellbeing Select Committee Other B&NES Services; Community Safety and Policy & Partnership, Section 151 Finance Officer.

¹ "Community Safety" covers all local partnership activity on crime, safety, justice and disorder. "Community safety partnerships" is the phrase used in the guidance to cover "Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships" which are known in B&NES as the Responsible Authorities Group (RAG); B&NES Council, Avon & Somerset Police, Avon Probation Service, B&nes PCT, Fire & Rescue, CURO. The Responsible Authorities Group acts as the Local Strategic Partnership's delivery arm for safer communities, helping to deliver key aspects of our vision of a distinctive place, with vibrant communities where everyone fulfils their potential.

11 RISK MANAGEMENT

11.1A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

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Background papers	<i>N/A</i>
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