

## **LEICESTERSHIRE SAFER COMMUNITIES STRATEGY BOARD**

**10 DECEMBER 2018**

### **LSCSB UPDATE: OFFICE OF POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER (OPCC)**

#### **Introduction**

1. This report describes work undertaken by the OPCC to develop clearer governance surrounding its work with community safety partnerships and the development of People Zones in three areas across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR). The three areas are: New Parks (City), Bell Foundry Estate (Loughborough) and Coalville.

#### **Notable developments and challenges:**

##### **Past Year**

2. In relation to the working relationships between community safety partnerships and the OPCC a workshop took place in September 2018 to review strategic direction and agree a governance arrangement. The outputs from that have been presented to the Senior Officers' Group (SOG) and to the Strategic Partnership Board (SPB). They are presented at Appendix 1 attached to this report.
3. In relation to People Zones, the concept has been developed and consulted upon widely across LLR and been approved by the Strategic Partnership Board. Workshops have been held in each of the areas and the key issues to address have been identified. Consultations have been undertaken with the three areas and Ambition Statements have been prepared, backed up by delivery plans. The core activities are still being developed in each of the three areas but each area has a schedule in place and in New Parks is being driven forward by a Community Panel led by members of the community.

##### **Coming Year**

4. In relation to the governance arrangements, although the structure is built, more work is needed to ensure that there is alignment across all of the meetings – so that Joint Action Groups (JAGs) are able to escalate issues up through Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs), ultimately to the SPB and that, likewise, priorities can be routed from SPB and SOG right through to individual JAGs. Similarly, the arrangements rely upon bi-annual events hosted by the OPCC to review plans and set the strategic direction and supporting budget arrangements. The first of these meetings is scheduled for January 2019.

5. In relation to People Zones, the approach is being tested in each of the three areas, but will need refining as our experience develops. At this stage there is further work underway to do the following:
  - i. Apply the learning from the Braunstone Blues Project – an evaluation of the Braunstone Blues has identified the key ingredients that enabled it to be effective. These ingredients have been reviewed and are being integrated into the current delivery of People Zones as appropriate.
  - ii. Building a core team – one of the ingredients of the Braunstone Blues was having a dedicated team to deliver the services and engage with the community. This cannot be achieved in the same way with People Zones as the aim is to avoid any additional revenue cost. However, there is an emerging team that is leading each of the People Zones and this needs to be consolidated. At present the People Zone Teams have developed according to local initiative including operational leads in from local authority, police, fire and health. In the county areas the input of the local area co-ordinator has also been a key element.
  - iii. Building the toolkit – at present the activities generated by the People Zones are focussed on the problems raised through the workshops but without any defined methodology. As we test and develop our approaches for engaging with communities and delivering effective activities these approaches will be built into an online toolkit available to anyone.
  - iv. Evaluation – the methodology aims to maximise the activities which generate resilience in the local community, focussing on skills, resources, health & well-being and safety. By building resilience in this way the benefits that flow from these activities will realise the aims articulated by the communities in the Ambition Statements. Evaluation will therefore identify the resilience building activity undertaken as well as the realisation of each of the Ambition Statements.

### **Key issues for partnership working or affecting partners**

6. One emerging output from the work on People Zones is the development of a coherent underpinning approach. The key elements of which are as follows:
  - i. Community enabled – the aim is for the approach to be identified and led by the community, drawing on and mobilising community resources wherever possible.
  - ii. Resilience building – the activities are as much focussed on building resilience across the whole community as they are focussed on protecting the vulnerable or managing those people who present a risk.
  - iii. Problem solving – the approach encourages all participants to engage in problem solving activity to address issues from within existing resources.
  - iv. Integration of services – as mentioned above, the aim is to build an integrated group of local services working directly with the people of each community to deliver their ambitions.

7. The aim of the initiative is to be highly inclusive and to value any contribution of any organisation or community member that contributes to the above. Agencies are encouraged to share any initiatives that can provide a valuable contribution in each People Zone.

### **Issues in local areas**

8. At this early stage in development it is too early to pick out specific issues that have emerged from the three areas. Each of the People Zones is developing in a slightly different manner according to local circumstances. However, it is clear that each People Zone needs the involvement of the local authority, police, fire and health services.

### **Recommendations for the Board**

9. The Board is asked to note this paper.

### **Officer to Contact**

Paul Hindson

Office of Police and Crime Commissioner

Tel: 0116 229 8980

Email: [paul.hindson@leics.pcc.pnn.gov.uk](mailto:paul.hindson@leics.pcc.pnn.gov.uk)

### **Appendix**

Appendix 1 – Outputs of September 2018 workshop.

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