

## LEICESTERSHIRE SAFER COMMUNITIES STRATEGY BOARD

### LEICESTERSHIRE SAFER COMMUNITIES AGREEMENT 2011-13

#### Introduction

- 1.1 This Agreement sets out the county-level community safety priorities across Leicestershire. It outlines how agencies and partnerships will work together and share resources to deliver these and other Safer Communities common priorities. The Agreement will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis.
- 1.2 This is Leicestershire's second Safer Communities Agreement and is based upon the strategic assessment and review process carried out between October 2010 and May 2011.

#### Background

- 2.1 This Safer Communities Agreement is prepared based on the County and District/Borough based Community Safety Partnership (CSP) strategic assessments, in accordance with the Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007.
- 2.2 The Agreement also identifies the ways in which the responsible authorities can implement the priorities set out in the strategic assessments through co-ordinated or joint working.

#### Key Principles

- 3.1 Two key principles underpin our approach to ensuring Safer Communities:
  - Promoting equality and diversity and tackling inequality
  - Engaging communities in identifying and helping to solve the issues that impact upon them.
- 3.2 *Promoting Equality and Diversity*  
Responsible authorities across Leicestershire are committed to serving all members of their communities effectively, and ensuring that all actions and plans consider implications for a variety of different groups and sections of the community. They will work to ensure people are not excluded or disadvantaged because of their Race, Disability, Gender, Age, Religion and belief, or Sexual Orientation.
- 3.3 The Equalities Impact of this Agreement has been assessed and the Improvement Actions have been incorporated into the delivery plans for the objectives of the LSCSB and all CSPs.
- 3.4 *Engaging Communities*  
Responsible authorities and Leicestershire Together partner agencies are committed to engaging with local communities in a number of ways including:
  - Community Forums

- Strategy Consultation
- Partnership Action Weeks
- Community Calls for Action.
- Community Safety Partnership “Face the People” sessions
- Other partnership and agency community engagement networks

## **Priorities for Safer Communities in Leicestershire**

### **Strategic Assessments**

- 4.1 Priorities for safer communities outcomes in Leicestershire have been identified in Leicestershire’s Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), district based Sustainable Communities Strategies and local Community Safety Partnerships’ (CSPs) Community Safety Plans. In accordance with the 2007 regulations these are based upon the partnership strategic assessments.
- 4.2 In 2010 the partnership strategic assessment process was combined with the police’s strategic assessment process for the City, County and Rutland. A single report was produced, followed by brief summaries for districts and for the county. These were used by partnerships and the Board to identify future county level and local community safety priorities and to review local community safety plans and this agreement.
- 4.3 This process and scope of the strategic assessment products will continue to be developed and improved, based upon feedback from partnerships and individual partner agencies.

### **Sustainable Communities Strategy Safer Communities Priorities**

- 5.1 The following priorities have been identified for Leicestershire, and refreshed within the Sustainable Community Agreement for Leicestershire:
- a. Reduce re-offending, with a particular focus on earlier intervention with families with complex needs and those at risk of becoming families with complex needs
  - b. Protect the most vulnerable in communities, particularly previous and repeat victims of crime
  - c. Continue to reduce anti-social behaviour, particularly in those areas with the highest levels of incidents
  - d. Increase public confidence, particularly user satisfaction with local crime and disorder services, especially in priority areas.

Plus the two further priorities within the Total Place Programme.

- i. Reduce substance-related crime and disorder
  - ii. Reduce the costs by optimisation of all interventions and service delivery.
- 5.2 These priorities mirror those identified by CSPs, with all identifying the above as local priorities in some guise. In addition, the priorities reflect the

link to the work of the county Community Budgets pilot focussing on work with Families with Complex Needs.

- 5.3 The national framework of Local Area Agreements has ended, and is not being replaced. Outcomes for the above priorities are being identified in line with the developing work on Community Budgets and the developing commissioning approach for Safer Communities.
- 5.4 The Strategic Commissioning Group will work to ensure that all sustainable community strategy outcomes and indicators are joined up as appropriate in order to maximise impact for communities.

### **Delivery Mechanisms**

- 6.1 Work to identify the most appropriate delivery mechanisms for our priorities is part of current work on commissioning for October 2011 onwards. The Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) are best placed to lead on local delivery.
- 6.2 Delivery on priorities will be led as follows:
- 6.3 The Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland Reducing Re-offending Strategy is the key delivery mechanism for the reducing re-offending priority and is led by the multi-agency Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) Reducing Re-offending Board and the Leicestershire Youth Offending Services Management Board. Whilst YOS and Probation Service are the lead agencies for the reducing re-offending, along with the MAPPOM arrangements, all community safety partners now have statutory duty to reduce re-offending. CSPs therefore have an important contribution to make to reducing re-offending, through the contributions of individual partners towards offender needs and incorporation of offender work as an element of delivery plans.
- 6.4 The developing programme on families with Complex Needs will impact directly on reducing re-offending. The Community Budget Programme Board will be the key delivery mechanism.
- 6.5 Work on substance misuse reduction is led by the Leicestershire Substance Misuse Board. Commissioning activity has identified two providers to provide county substance misuse services across the non criminal justice (Swanswell Trust) and criminal justice (Leicestershire and Rutland Probation Trust) sectors. Contractual frameworks include performance management expectations around the reduction of offending and re-offending behaviour. The framework is promoting achieving positive outcomes for service users through recovery and re-integration. Providers will be working collaboratively with colleagues in Community Safety Partnerships to ensure service delivery meets local need.
- 6.6 Partner agencies across Leicestershire have committed to identifying and protecting vulnerable people in our communities.

- 6.7 A one-day multi-agency Vulnerability and ASB training session, designed to give all agencies an understanding of vulnerability particularly in relation to ASB, has been delivered across the County to over 300 staff.
- 6.8 A Risk Assessment Tool has been developed to enable officers to identify vulnerable victims of ASB. A one-day multi-agency training session on the Vulnerability Risk Assessment Matrix and Practice Guidance has been delivered across the County to over 400 staff. Those cases identified as high risk are then case-managed through the Joint Action Group (JAG) with the associated increase in updated activity and supervision.
- 6.9 The JAG Task and Finish Group has devised a set of Minimum Standards for JAGs across Leicestershire and Rutland. Many partnerships have already adopted these standards, which include standards around vulnerability.
- 6.10 This priority includes victims of domestic abuse. The domestic abuse strategy board leads the strategic approach to this.
- 6.11 The strategic response to ASB is led by the multi agency sub regional ASB Strategic Group which is underpinned by the multi agency sub regional ASB Delivery Group.
- 6.12 The Home Office is running a national consultation in relation to effective responses to Anti Social Behaviour. The new legislation will be implemented in 2012; partners across Leicestershire are currently considering a strategic response to this new legislation to ensure a consistent response to it.
- 6.13 At a local level ASB will be managed through the JAG process.
- 6.14 Confidence and user satisfaction will be considered in the Leicestershire ASB Reduction Strategy

### **Cross Partnership Collaboration**

- 7.1 Community Safety Partnerships will continue to actively seek opportunities to work collaboratively with other CSPs within Leicestershire in order to maximise resources and increase effectiveness.
- 7.2 Some partnerships have embarked upon informal arrangements to join up CSPs in order to assess benefit of such an approach, namely Hinckley and Bosworth and Blaby. An evaluation framework has been developed by partners to measure the success of this collaborative working arrangement.
- 7.3 Safer Communities funding will be used to encourage joint working across partnership boundaries.

## **Resources**

- 8.1 All public agencies are facing reductions in budgets. This applies to the mainstream resources dedicated to preventing and reducing crime across Leicestershire amongst partner agencies, as well as Safer Communities funding from Central Government formerly known as the Area Based Grant.
- 8.2 This situation highlights the importance of continuous improvement in our approach to work together more closely to identify how resources can best be used more efficiently and effectively in a collaborative manner.
- 8.3 The Safer Communities element of the Area Based Grant is now incorporated within the County Council's formula grant from April 2011 and is now known as the Community Safety Fund.
- 8.4 From 2013 this funding will be included in the budget for the Policing and Crime Commissioner, to be elected May 2012.
- 8.5 It will be important for Leicestershire to develop robust and effective arrangements for the safer communities funding in that could be continued under the new Policing and Crime Commissioner
- 8.6 In order to continue development of the Safer Communities commissioning process for 2011 to 2013 and to manage the reduction in Safer Communities funding the Board has agreed to the following approach:
- 8.7 A six-month extension of existing funding allocations with the 24.8% cut, in order to provide additional time to consider all the options and the opportunity to make a more considered decision on the way forward as to how we can make best use of the Fund once the position in relation to the Community Budget is clearer.
- 8.8 The allocation of funding to Community Safety Partnerships for 2011 is outlined in Appendix 1.
- 8.9 The way forward for use of funding from October 2011 will be developed between April and June 2011 in order for an agreed approach to be in place by October 2011.
- 8.10 LSCSB will oversee the use of this element of the ABG. This role will include monitoring and reallocating spend where necessary, as well as determining priorities for use of future funding.
- 8.11 Domestic Abuse Support services have been reviewed and are currently being re-designed in order for services to be jointly commissioned across the County.

## **Performance Management**

- 9.1 The ending of Local Area Agreements and the removal of the National Indicator Set and the majority of National Performance Frameworks there is an opportunity to develop a local performance framework for Safer Communities to meet local needs and support our commissioning approach.
- 9.2 A local performance management framework for Safer Communities will be developed during 2011/12 in conjunction with partner's local work on this and work on developing the performance and evaluation framework for community budgets.
- 9.3 Whilst the new framework is in development key continuing outcome measures such as recorded crime will continue to be monitored.
- 9.4 The Leicestershire Safer Communities Strategy Board will oversee the performance management of the Leicestershire Safer Communities Agreement and therefore the Safer Communities priorities on behalf of Leicestershire Together.
- 9.5 Progress on appropriate performance indicators and targets will be reported to the Leicestershire Safer Communities Strategy Board on a quarterly basis or as requested. Overall safer communities performance, will be monitored by the Senior Officer Group of the Board on a more regular basis. This will include monitoring against relevant bench marking information.

## **Governance**

- 10.1 The Leicestershire Safer Communities Strategy Board is responsible for the delivery of the Safer Communities outcomes within the Sustainable Community Strategy on behalf of Leicestershire Together.
- 10.2 The Safer Communities Funding from the Home Office is managed through the Board on behalf of the County Council.
- 10.3 Community Safety Partnerships are responsible to the Board for their delivery against the priorities in this Agreement and the use of Safer Communities funding they receive to do this.
- 10.4 Community Safety Partnerships and the Board are responsible to local communities for delivery of the Board's and the individual Partnership's priorities.

## Appendix 1 – ABG Safer Communities Revenue Funding 2011 to 2013

### To September 2011

	<b>CSP REVENUE ALLOCATION to September 2011 (rounded to nearest £)</b>
<b>Blaby</b>	£22,380
<b>Charnwood</b>	£36,209
<b>Harborough</b>	£19,398
<b>Hinckley &amp; Bosworth</b>	£24,506
<b>Melton</b>	£16,423
<b>North West Leics</b>	£24,106
<b>Oadby &amp; Wigston</b>	£17,071
<b>Total CSP allocation</b>	<b>£160,094</b>
<b>Countywide allocation</b>	<b>£118,370</b>
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>£278,464</b>

### From October 2011

<b>2011/12 Revenue (October 2011 to March 2012)</b>	<b>£278,481</b>
<b>2012/13 Revenue</b>	<b>£281,759</b>