

**SCRUTINY COMMISSION – 30 MAY 2012****LEICESTERSHIRE SAFER COMMUNITIES BOARD  
COMMISSIONING PLAN 2012-13****REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE****Purpose of Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to present the Leicestershire Safer Communities Commissioning Plan for 2012-13, attached as Appendix 1.

**Policy Framework and Previous Decisions**

2. The Safer Communities Commissioning Plan was approved by the Leicestershire Safer Communities Strategy Board in January 2012 and is based partly on the Safer Communities Agreement that was submitted to the Commission for consideration in June 2011.
3. The Commission has received previous reports on the 2008-11 Safer Communities Agreement in October 2009 and again in January 2011.

**Background**

4. The Crime and Disorder (Overview and Scrutiny) Regulations 2009 require every local authority to have in place a committee with power to review and scrutinise, and make reports or recommendations, regarding the functioning of the responsible authorities (local authorities, fire and rescue authorities, police authorities, the police, primary care trusts which comprise a Community Safety Partnership. The Scrutiny Commission exercises this function in relation to the County Council and is required by the 2009 Regulations to meet for this purpose at least once a year.
5. The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007 require in two tier areas a strategy group to be established to prepare a community safety agreement for the county on behalf of the responsible authorities. The Leicestershire Safer Communities Board, chaired by the County Council's Cabinet Lead Member for Safer Communities, was established in May 2008 for this purpose.
6. According to the 2007 Regulations, the community safety agreement is intended to identify the ways in which the responsible authorities in the county area might more effectively implement the priorities set out in their strategic assessments through coordinated or joint working; and how the

responsible authorities in the county area might otherwise reduce crime and disorder or combat substance misuse through coordinated or joint working.

### **Leicestershire Together Integrated Commissioning Framework**

7. The Leicestershire Safer Communities Board is one of the five Commissioning Hubs that make up the Leicestershire Together Integrated Commissioning Framework and the Safer Communities Commissioning Plan has been developed in line with the Leicestershire Together Commissioning Framework. The Plan also incorporates the community safety agreement for Leicestershire as described in paragraphs 5 and 6 above.

### **Leicestershire Safer Communities Commissioning Plan 2011-13**

8. The Commissioning Plan is presented for consideration by the Commission to enable the Commission to carry out its function as a Crime and Disorder Scrutiny Committee. It has been developed based upon the allocation of Safer Communities Funding agreed by the Safer Communities Strategy Board up to March 2013.
9. The overall Safer Communities priorities for Leicestershire are set out in paragraph 2 of the Plan and these are also reflected in local Community Safety Partnership strategies. An important link is also made between reducing re-offending and the Troubled Families programme. The more specific commissioning priorities are found in paragraph 7.
10. It should be noted that in common with all public services, the Commissioning Plan has been produced against a backdrop of significantly reducing resources. There was a 20% cut in funding in what is now known as the Community Safety Fund (previously Area Based Grant) in 2011-12 and there has been a further 40% cut in 2012/13.
11. In addition to resource reductions, the introduction of an elected Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) in May 2012 will fundamentally alter the community safety landscape, not least because control of the Community Safety Fund will pass to the PCC on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013. The full implications of this change will only become clear when the Commissioner takes office, although preparatory work is underway including the production of a PCC partnership guidance document which will describe the partnership landscape and will also set out how the current funding is used. It will be important to establish a dialogue with the Commissioner as soon as possible if we are to influence the future use of the funding.
12. The Plan also identifies the 5 key relationships with the other Leicestershire Together Commissioning Hubs and groups within the Leicestershire Together Commissioning structure (paragraphs 21 and 22) It also starts to identify mainstream resources beyond the Safer Communities Fund that would enable the delivery of the Boards priorities.

This will be a particular challenge for the future following the transfer of the existing funding to the PCC

**Recommendation**

13. The Commission is asked to consider the Safer Communities Commissioning Plan and indicate what comments, if any, it wishes to submit to the Safer Communities Strategy Board.

**Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure**

None.

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**List of Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Leicestershire Safer Communities Commissioning Plan 2012-13

**Equal Opportunities Implications**

Work on an Equality Impact Assessment is currently being undertaken.