

Open Report on behalf of Les Britzman, Chief Fire Officer

Report to:	Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee
Date:	17 March 2020
Subject:	Safer Lincolnshire Partnership: Annual update

Summary:

This report provides a refresh on the structure of the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership and the basis on which the priorities are decided, as well as an overview of the activity of the Partnership during the last year, with a summary of the specific contribution made by Lincolnshire County Council to that partnership work.

Actions Required:

Members of the Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee are invited to:

- 1) Consider and comment on the contents of the report and;
- 2) Endorse the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership plan to reduce crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in the county of Lincolnshire.

1. Background

a) Legislation

The Safer Lincolnshire Partnership (SLP) is the single strategic multi-agency forum for partners to address community safety priorities that impact across Lincolnshire. The SLP serves as the county's Community Safety Partnership; required under the Crime & Disorder Act 1998. The SLP has a statutory duty to produce a strategic assessment and implement a community safety agreement based on the results of this.

b) Partnership Structure

A health check of the Partnership was carried out in late 2017. The findings of that review made a number of recommendations which were implemented in April 2018, including a move to the following structure:

Overview and Scrutiny Board (OSB) - Represents the views of the public within the SLP and oversees and scrutinises partnership activity and decisions. It delivers the statutory functions to:

- regularly engage and consult with the public about their community safety priorities and issues.
- hold one or more public meetings during each year.

Strategy Board (SB) – is made up of multi-agency partners and is responsible for devising and implementing a strategic plan to address SLP priorities. It delivers the statutory functions to:

- prepare and implement a partnership plan that sets out a strategy for the reduction of crime and disorder and addressing the priorities identified in the strategic assessment.
- set up protocols and systems for information sharing.
- commission Domestic Homicide Reviews following notification from the Police of a domestic homicide.

Core Priority Groups (CPG) - Bring together experts from a number of organisations to plan and carry out the partnership work on each priority.

c) Evidence Base and Priorities

The SLP has in place a process for determining its priorities. A key element of this is the Strategic Assessment, produced by Analysts within the Safer Communities Service, which provides the SLP with a solid evidence base upon which to make decisions. The drafting of the Strategic Assessment and a brief overview of the priority setting is summarised below:

- The starting point for the document, in that the number of topics was narrowed down, was the Police Strategic Assessment which identified ten high risk issues
- Analysis was conducted on what were the current partnership priorities
- Partners were asked to assess their agencies position of each issue in terms of the likelihood of occurrence, confidence in the data, prevalence and capability to address
- All the findings were collated and recommendations regarding priorities (see core priorities and emerging issues below) and potential tasks for each area, made to the partnership

On an ongoing basis the Analysts within the Safer Communities Service carry out 'scanning' activity, the purpose of which is to identify any crime types or characteristics (e.g. victimisations, perpetrations, locations) which require

further exploration which may, in turn, lead to a recommendation to the SLP Strategy Board.

Core Priorities - Core Priorities are broad areas of community safety identified through the strategic assessment as the most significant issues for Lincolnshire which will benefit from a multi-agency partnership approach. They are issues with a high volume of work that require strategic input and may be responsible for routine multi-agency activity. For the period 2018-21, the following priorities were identified:

- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Domestic Abuse
- Reducing Offending
- Serious and Organised Crime (Fraud and Modern Slavery)

Emerging/Cross Cutting Issues - specific multi-agency issues that require a strategic response. As mentioned earlier, scanning of data occurs throughout the 3 year cycle to identify such issues. When determining whether to address an issue, the Strategy Board will consider available resources and current workload. The current issues being addressed are mental health, substance misuse and information sharing.

2. Activity of the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership

a) Overview & Scrutiny Board

As above, the OSB is responsible for holding a public meeting each year and for engagement with the public. In respect of the former, the OSB held a public meeting on 9th October 2019. On the latter, to avoid duplication, rather than carry out an independent engagement it was agreed to utilise the public perception survey that Lincolnshire's Police & Crime Commissioner conducts on an annual basis. The Safer Communities Service has received the raw data from surveys held in 2017 and 2018 and will be provided with 2019 results in due course. This will be used by the Analysts as part of the upcoming Strategic Assessment (see Section 3 below).

b) Strategy Board

In accordance with its statutory duties, the Strategy Board has in place a plan (contained within the SLP Handbook) which sets out the priorities identified as a result of a strategic assessment. Further, a delivery plan has been produced which details the specific activity required against each of the priority areas.

The SLP also has in place the necessary Information Sharing Agreements; the overarching agreement for the partnership is currently being refreshed in liaison with the County Councils Information Governance Team. A process has been established for the commissioning of Domestic Homicide Reviews, and an update on the progress of each Review is a standing agenda item for the Board.

c) Core Priority Groups

For each of the priority areas, a Core Priority Group (CPG) has been established. Selecting from the recommendations in the Strategic Assessment, the Strategy Board have allocated each CPG specific tasks to deliver against. The Strategy Board is provided with a detailed update on progress against these tasks by each Core Priority Group on a quarterly basis.

Papers providing detailed updates on each priority area have been, and will continue to be, provided to the Community and Public Safety Scrutiny Committee, so the following highlights just some of the activity of the CPGs to date.

i) Anti-Social Behaviour

- Working in collaboration with the Waste Partnership, the ASB CPG launched a fly tipping campaign in January 2020 designed to raise awareness of the issue and responsibilities. The next step, currently being progressed, is to explore links with crime and licencing.
- Attendance at ASBRACs (Anti-Social Behaviour Risk Assessment Conferences) has been enhanced in that Adult Safeguarding Practitioners are now regular attendees. Mental Health professionals are also attending in a couple of areas as a pilot and ASBRAC has been written into Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (LPFT) policy and an online training package developed for staff.
- The case management system (ECINS) procured on behalf of the partnership has been implemented. A great deal of work has been undertaken to embed ECINS into ASB working practices including improvements to case assessments and training on this aspect as well as on the system itself.
- Standard Operating Procedures have been produced and a Partnership Agreement has also been written to manage areas such as governance arrangements, funding and information sharing. A Project Board is in place to manage the expansion of ECINS across other areas of business in Lincolnshire (e.g. Domestic Abuse commissioned services and Team Around the Adult).

ii) Domestic Abuse

- The 'Make a Change' programme commenced on 1st March 2019. The initiative includes three elements; a perpetrator programme, training for practitioners and community engagement. This will run alongside other elements (including for example training on stalking harassment and a communications campaign) which all contribute to the task of 'tackling social and cultural perceptions about the acceptability of abusive behaviours within relationships'.
- In respect of 'encouraging victims of domestic abuse to report', Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs) have been introduced in the Accident and Emergency Departments of both Lincoln County Hospital and Pilgrim Hospital Boston, with the aim of reducing the immediate risk of harm, and

improving the physical and mental health outcomes of those affected by domestic abuse and receiving treatment.

- A Specialist Domestic Abuse Court has commenced in Lincolnshire and is being monitored by a working group.
- A child to parent/carer abuse intervention will be implemented shortly; the pathway and access to services is currently being finalised.

iii) Reducing Offending

- A review of the ARC scheme (Assisting Rehabilitation through Collaboration) has been conducted and partners are working on the resulting recommendations; including exploring the feasibility of an Integrated Management of Complex Needs collaboration between ARC, the Blue Light Project (for treatment resistant drinkers) and other multi-agency schemes for offenders and those with complex needs.
- Having completed a number of tasks, new objectives have been added to the RO CPG plan as of January 2020:
 - Ensure services, systems and processes are in place pre and post release to ensure the effective reintegration of prisoners back in to the community
 - Improve understanding of offending during transition years from juvenile to adult in Lincolnshire so any gaps in services provided can be identified and improved
 - Improve our understanding of female offenders using analysis and by benchmarking against the Ministry of Justice Female Offender Strategy.

iv) Fraud

- A very successful and well attended Scamference took place on the 10th May 2019 with speakers from Think Jessica, National Trading Standards Scams Team, the PCC, City of London Police, Lincolnshire County Council Director of Adult Services, Lincolnshire County Council Head of Safer Communities, Lincolnshire Police and Bournemouth University.
- A fraud profile has been produced, with the findings shared with the Fraud CPG and at the Scamference. The analysis considered various datasets including Trading Standards, Lincolnshire Police, Action Fraud and Adult Social Care. At risk groups and geographical areas were identified to enable for targeted activity to take place.
- The Home Office Fraud toolkit is being drafted and Lincolnshire best practice will feature in that. This will include looking at victim pathways and enforcement pathways for police incidents.
- Lincolnshire County Council launched as a Friends Against Scams organisation in January 2020.

v) Modern Slavery

- Tasks for this CPG centre on ensuring partners are able to recognise signs of Modern Slavery, know how to make referrals, that the intelligence picture is understood and victims are safeguarded.

- A Modern Slavery Charter has been drafted and is currently under review.
- A training package is being worked on in conjunction with the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board; this includes a face to face session along with an e-learning element. Work is also underway to clarify the Safeguarding referral processes which will ensure consistency and allow for the sharing of information as appropriate.
- Alongside this, work is taking place to ensure partners are clear on the National Referral Mechanism and that co-ordinated support is in place locally at point of disclosure for potential victims.

3. Next Steps for the SLP

During 2020/21, the Safer Communities Service will lead on a health check of the partnership. The purpose of the health check is to ensure that previous recommendations have been implemented successfully and operating as anticipated, that the Partnership remains fit for purpose and is in a position to continue to deliver effectively and efficiently.

It is also the point in the cycle where a further strategic assessment is required. This, again, will be led by the Safer Communities Service and the document will be utilised by the SLP to identify priorities for the next three years (2021-2024).

Partners will be fully engaged throughout both processes. It is key that structures are in place that work for partners and one of the criteria for determining an issue as a priority is its impact across a range of partners which can be addressed more effectively by coming together rather than a single agency issue.

4. Support to the Partnership by Lincolnshire County Council

Lincolnshire County Council provides business support, co-ordination and management of the SLP structure as well as taking an active role in each of the meetings. The Safer Communities Service also carries out a range of other functions that support the work of the SLP including contribution to procurement and contract management (e.g. Domestic Abuse Support Services and the ECINS case management system). The Service also gathers data on a range of community safety issues to provide the evidence base for the partnership and produces evaluations and performance reports as required. Lincolnshire County Council also hosts two multi-disciplinary teams in this area namely; Assisting Rehabilitation Through Collaboration (ARC) for prolific offending and Blue Light (treatment resistant drinkers).

5. Conclusion

Since the partnership restructure in 2018, significant progress has been made across all four priority areas as a consequence of the continued effort of partners. All activity carried out in the partnership is evidence based, ensuring partners resources are applied to best effect in addressing community safety issues for the County. The partnership is clear on the next steps in order to continue to drive the SLP forward.

6. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Claire Seabourne; who can be contacted on 01522 552609 or claire.seabourne@lincolnshire.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank