



Open Report on behalf of Martyn Parker, Assistant Director for Public Protection

Report to:	Public Protection and Communities Scrutiny Committee
Date:	31 January 2023
Subject:	Safer Lincolnshire Partnership Update

Summary:

This report provides an update on the of the strategic activity of the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership (SLP) over the past year. The report is intended to be of a high level noting that the Committee receives separately reports from the partnership's priority areas (Anti-Social Behaviour, Reducing Reoffending, Crime and Disorder and Substance Misuse) enabling members to scrutinise in more detail activity in these areas sitting under the remit of the SLP.

The contribution to the partnership made by Lincolnshire County Council (LCC), as one of a number of statutory organisations required to make up the membership, is also noted within the report.

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. Legislative Background

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 number of statutory duties as follows:

- prepare and implement a partnership plan that sets out a strategy for the reduction of reoffending, combating substance misuse, crime and disorder and addressing the priorities identified in the strategic assessment

- regularly engage and consult with the public about their community safety priorities and issues
- hold one or more public meetings during each year
- set up protocols and systems for information sharing
- commission Domestic Homicide Reviews following notification from the Police of a domestic homicide

2. Strategy Development

As referenced in section 1, the SLP has a statutory duty to carry out a strategic assessment to identify issues to be addressed in the area. The last assessment was produced in 2021 to inform the priority issues to be addressed by the partnership from April 2022.

In an unprecedented approach, the strategic assessment was produced as a tri-board product serving not only the SLP but also the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB) and Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (LSCP). The document was a holistic and forward-looking assessment of community safety and safeguarding issues, taking into account the changing environment including the impact of the pandemic. The Police & Crime Commissioner routinely shares the raw data from his annual survey with the Safer Communities Analytical team which ensures public perception information is integrated into the strategic assessment providing a more rounded and richer picture of community safety issues in the County.

The information was presented to members of the SLP and utilised by them to determine, under the statutory responsibilities, areas of focus. In doing so, the following considerations were also taken into account:

- Is a multi-agency partnership response required?
- What are specifically trying to achieve? How does it overlap with other areas of business/priorities? It is measurable? Is it realistic? It is proportionate? Is there a definable end point?
- Are there sufficient resources and capabilities to deliver the partnership response?
- Who will provide leadership for delivering each part of the response?

3. Strategy

Detailed below are the strategy, parameters and success measures set by the SLP Strategy Board in respect of each of our statutory areas of responsibility. Core Priority Groups (the delivery arm of the SLP; there is a Core Priority Group for each statutory area made up of multi-agency representation) have responsibility for drawing up and implementing a delivery plan, progress of which is reviewed by the Strategy Board on a quarterly basis.

Crime and Disorder

Focus: *Digitally Enabled Fraud and Identify Theft*

Strategy: *Reduce victimisation through targeted prevention work.*

Parameters: *Implement a range of targeted options taking account the victim demographics and deprivation location as informed by the evidence base.*

What will success look like: *delivery of identified prevention activity and increased awareness.*

Anti-Social Behaviour

Focus: *Neighbourhood Anti-Social Behaviour*

Strategy: *Targeted prevention work based on evidence, problem solving options for complex and longer-term neighbourhood Anti-Social behaviour.*

Parameters: *Completion of prevention work, and clarity of options/potential alternative options for complex disputes.*

What will success look like: *Increased awareness for both professionals and communities, resolution of neighbourhood anti-social behaviour in a timely manner and a decrease in severe cases including a reduction in the number of cases that escalate.*

Reducing Reoffending

Focus: *Integrated Offender Management, Women's Strategy and Transition*

Strategy: *Provide alternatives to Criminal Justice for those in transition years, with appropriate support and diversion and link with the Integrated Offender Management Strategy*

Parameters: *Focus to be on female offenders and those in transition years 18 – 25, linking as appropriate to the Integrated Offender Management scheme.*

What will success look like: *Reduction in repeat offending in female and transition years, utilise the Integrated Offender Management performance framework.*

Substance Misuse

Strategy: *Reduce drug and alcohol related harm through a comprehensive package of prevention and treatment activity.*

Parameters: Focus on early prevention in areas of greatest deprivation, ensure sufficient support services are available in those areas and work holistically with partners to achieve a positive outcome for individuals, families and communities.

What will success look like: Fewer people will use drugs and experience harm from alcohol use, and services will be in place to support behaviour change in those people who need specialist treatment to overcome harmful drinking or drug use.

4. New Duty: Serious Violence

Following public consultation in July 2019, the Government announced that it would bring forward legislation introducing a new serious violence duty on public bodies which will ensure relevant services work together to share data and knowledge and allow them to target their interventions to prevent serious violence altogether.

The Government also announced that it would amend the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to ensure that serious violence is an explicit priority for Community Safety Partnerships (known as the SLP in Lincolnshire) by making sure they have a strategy in place to tackle violent crime.

The Duty requires specified authorities to identify the kinds of serious violence that occur in their area, the causes of that violence (so far as it is possible to do so), and to prepare and implement a strategy for preventing and reducing serious violence in the area.

The Duty requires the following specified authorities to work together, and to consult educational, prison and youth custody authorities for the area in the preparation of their strategy:

- Police
- Probation Services
- Youth Offending Teams
- Fire and Rescue Services
- Clinical Commissioning Groups
- District councils
- County Councils

Although the Duty was not due to come into force until January 2023, partners were keen to respond proactively and to that end, with funding from Lincolnshire's Police & Crime Commissioner, a Violence Reduction Strategic Needs Assessment was undertaken.

It was also agreed that a Serious Violence Core Priority Group would be established. In recognition of the Community Safety Partnerships wider remit in relation to community safety, and that many issues concerning violent crime can be interrelated, this will help to ensure that individual strategies (such as domestic abuse and substance misuse) are aligned without being duplicative. Membership of the group is being developed and will comprise the statutory partners who have a responsibility under the serious violence duty. The first meeting was held mid-August 2022 to share with attendees the assessment and

to commence discussions in respect of the strategy development. The second meeting was an opportunity for attendees to review a draft strategy. A dedicated Serious Violence Co-Ordinator has now been appointed; their primary focus currently is continuing work on the development of the strategy. The governments requirement is that the strategy be in place by 31st January 2024; in Lincolnshire we will be well ahead of this deadline.

5. Domestic Homicide Reviews

As outlined in section 1, one of the statutory duties for the partnership is to commission Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) on appropriate notification from the Police. Given the introduction of the Lincolnshire Domestic Abuse Partnership, resulting from the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, the SLP has delegated DHRs to that partnership. To ensure, however, that the SLP fulfils its responsibilities, an assurance framework has been agreed. This will see the SLP receive a bi-annual report from the Domestic Abuse Partnership which will include a brief overview of how the statutory duties are being met, update on any identified themes/trends and associated response, progress towards completion of actions plans and assurances around finances.

6. Dashboard

In line with the agreed principles of the partnership, namely, to remain evidence based, proactive and monitor performance, the Safer Communities Analysts have been developing dashboards. The dashboard for the Reducing Reoffending area of business is complete and has been utilised to good affect by the Core Priority Group. Having received a demonstration of the dashboard at the last Strategy Board, members of the partnership were incredibly impressed and keen to see this approach developed across all areas of business. This does form part of the workplan for the Analytical team in 2023, though progress will be impeded by the current lack of capacity (recruitment pending).

7. Finances

Over the course of the last year, the SLP has been reviewing the financial contributions it receives from partners. Contributions are currently received in contribution to co-ordination, Domestic Homicide Reviews, Domestic Abuse management and ECINS (partnership case management system). The current arrangements and amounts are historic in nature, hence the partnership taking the opportunity to revisit the financial demands on the partnership. A case has also been made to receive monies to enhance capacity within the analytical team. In the main, partners have been supportive, and a number have submitted business cases within their respective organisations to secure additional funds.

8. Communications

The SLP have now established a quarterly newsletter. This provides an opportunity to promote the activity of the partnership as well as signpost services to members of the public. The SLP have also engaged in joint publicity campaigns alongside the Lincolnshire Domestic Abuse Partnership, Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board and the Lincolnshire

Safeguarding Children Partnership. Those four partnerships/boards are also in the process of establishing a joint Twitter account; seeking to maximise the reach and impact of messages whilst also reducing duplication. For the first time in a number of years, the SLP had a presence at the Lincolnshire Show in 2022. Preparations are currently underway for attendance in 2023 alongside exploring other opportunities for the SLP to engage with the public.

9. Support to the Partnership by Lincolnshire County Council

Lincolnshire County Council provides administrative support, analytical resource, management and the majority of the co-ordination of the SLP structure, as well as taking an active role in each of the meetings; either as Chair/vice Chair or group member. The Community Safety Service also carries out a range of other functions that supports the work of the SLP, including contribution to procurement and contract management (e.g., the ECINS case management system).

10. Conclusion

As demonstrated above, the SLP has invested heavily over the last year to ensure that all the conditions are in place to ensure that the partnership is able to perform effectively against its statutory duties, and for the benefit of residents of, and those visiting, Lincolnshire. The SLP is in a strong position to continue to deliver against its identified strategy going forward.

11. Consultation

a) Risks and Impact Analysis

N/A.

12. 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, Safer Lincolnshire Partnership Business Manager who can be contacted on 07733 301317 or claire.seabourne@lincolnshire.gov.uk.