

Corporate Performance Management, Efficiency and Effectiveness Scrutiny Committee - 4th September 2014

Report of the Dudley Local Policing Unit's Chief Superintendant

Dudley Local Policing Unit and Police and Crime Board – Priorities, Performance and Vision

Purpose of Report

1. To provide the Scrutiny Committee with an update in respect of Dudley Local Policing Unit and Dudley's Police and Crime Board priorities for 2014-15 and an overview of the linkages to the role of the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner. (PCC)

Background

2. The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 saw the introduction of directly elected Police and Crime Commissioners in England and Wales (outside of London). Elections were held in November 2012.
3. The West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner is the local governing body for policing in our area. The PCC has an over-arching duty to secure an effective and efficient police force. The PCC has three main roles, which are to:-
 - Set the priorities for policing
 - Decide the budget for West Midlands Police
 - Hold the Chief Constable of West Midlands Police to account
4. In order to fulfill these roles, the PCC has a range of powers and responsibilities. This includes the power to make Crime and Disorder Reduction Grants.
5. The PCC for the West Midlands decided that he would passport back funding for Community Safety to Local Authority Areas. This commenced on 1st April 2013. There were two caveats to this.
 - That each Local Authority/Policing Area had a Local Policing and Crime Plan
 - That each Local Authority Area had a Local Police and Crime Board

6. Due to the untimely death of Bob Jones there is a by-election for a new PCC on August 21st 2014. At this point in time it is not known if this will lead to a review of arrangements.
7. The newly elected PCC will attend the Committee in the New Year.

Dudley's Local Policing and Crime Plan

8. Dudley's Local Policing and Crime Plan sets out the local crime and community safety priorities
9. The priorities were identified following a period of consultation with communities across the Borough including through Face the People – safe & sound (Dudley's Community Safety Partnership's) annual consultation event and through the safe & sound (Dudley's Community Safety Partnership) Strategic Assessment.
10. Work to address these priorities is being taken forward under six strategic themes
 - Tackling reoffending
 - Increasing our understand of Dudley's young people
 - Reducing repeat victims of crime
 - Safeguarding vulnerable groups
 - Improving quality of life in key neighbourhoods
 - Improving town centre safety
11. Dudley's Local Policing and Crime Plan whilst being specific and relevant to Dudley links to the West Midlands Police and Crime Plan through key strategic themes

Dudley's Local Police and Crime Board

12. Dudley's Police and Crime Board was established in November 2013. The Police and Crime Board is accountable to safe & sound (Dudley's Community Safety Partnership) Strategic Board. The Police and Crime Board is made up of representatives from the Community and Voluntary Sector as well as Heads of Statutory Services. In line with the PCC's requirements we are working towards having 51% of the Police and Crime Board's membership from the Community and Voluntary Sector as well as an elected chair from the Community and Voluntary Sector. (Membership is detailed in appendix 1)
13. Responsibilities of the Police and Crime Board include:-
 - Contributing to the development of the Local Policing and Crime Plan
 - Contributing to the development of the Community Safety Plan
 - Commissioning and decommissioning of services in line with community safety priorities
 - Performance management

14. As the Police and Crime Board develops it is anticipated that it will bring a greater degree of scrutiny to the Policing and Community Safety agenda as well as the community view in respect of priorities and the voice of the victim.

Performance

15. The majority of the performance indicators that the Police and Crime Board monitor are detailed in the Corporate Quarterly Performance Management Report in the Tackling crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour section.
16. Overall performance is strong with the exception of the Performance Indicator in respect of Violence with Injury. Work is in hand to improve outcomes including the West Midlands Police Forces Service Transformation agenda which has seen an increase in staffing for Public Protection in Dudley from 28th July 2014.
17. In respect of customer satisfaction via residents surveys in Dudley year to date performance data (August 2014) indicates the following:-
- Public have confidence in the Police – Force 61% - Dudley 83.1%
 - Customer satisfaction with Crime – Force 70.1% - Dudley 84.7%
 - Customer satisfaction with ASB – Force 62.7% - Dudley 79.4%

Vision for Policing in Dudley and Future Priorities

18. There will be a need to target resources effectively and this will include a focus on harm reduction and vulnerability (including reducing domestic abuse and public place violence). Priorities going forward will include:-
- Maintaining a commitment to Neighbourhood Policing
 - Protecting vulnerable people
 - Reducing crime and ASB
 - Delivering an excellent service
 - Improving trust and confidence
19. Dudley Local Policing Unit will work with partners to ensure that Dudley continues to be the safest Borough within the West Midlands to live in, work in and visit. This will contribute to the health and wellbeing of the population as well as economic growth.

Law

20. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and subsequent amendments as well as the Police and Justice Act 2006 and the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 are of particular relevance in respect of the report.

Finance

21. There are no specific financial implications arising from this report.

Equality Impact

22. Communities were consulted in respect of the Dudley Local Policing and Crime Plan 2014-15. This included young people.

23. The Police and Crime Board has almost 51% community representation including young people.

Recommendation

The Committee are invited to consider the report outlined above and express their views on future policing priorities for the Borough.



.....
Christopher Johnson
Chief Superintendent
Dudley Local Policing Unit

Contact Officer:: Sue Haywood – Head of Community Safety
Telephone 01384 818115
Email: sue.haywood@dudley.gov.uk

List of Background Papers

Dudley Local Policing and Crime Plan

Appendix 1

Police and Crime Board - Membership

Community and Voluntary Sector Representatives (13)

- Interfaith Network - Ajaz Ahmad
- CfED (1) - Kenneth Rodney
- DFTRA (1) - Martin Smith
- Victim Support (1) - Sarah Lange/Carol McKay
- Youth Council (2) – Joanna and Jay
- DCVS (1) - Andy Gray
- Cabinet member for Housing and Community Safety – Cllr Gaye Partridge
- Conservative Spokesperson for Housing and Community Safety –Cllr Bob James
- Magistrate (1) - Nomination in the new year
- Business Crime Partnership - Dave Bryce
- School Governor - Mr. P Van Veen
- Assistant PCC - Judy Foster

Statutory Sector Representatives (12)

- West Midlands Police Service - Chris Johnson (Chair)
- West Midlands Police Service - Andy Parsons
- West Midlands Fire and Rescue Service - Julie Winpenny
- Staffordshire and West Midlands Probation Trust Michael Fergus
- Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group - Neill Bucktin
- Dudley MBC (DACHS) - Nigel Collumbell
- Dudley MBC (DACHS) - Helen Barlow
- Dudley MBC (DACHS) - Anne Harris
- Dudley MBC (Childrens Services) - Jane Prasher
- Dudley MBC (Childrens Services) - Mike Galikowski
- Dudley MBC (Childrens Services) - Jassi Broadmeadow
- Dudley MBC (Community Safety Team) - Sue Haywood

Support to the Board

- Dudley MBC (Community Safety Team) - Bob Dimmock
(Performance and Commissioning Manager)
- Dudley MBC (Community Safety Team) - Andy Winning
- Dudley MBC (Community Safety Team) - Jill Dixon
(Admin Support)
- Safe & Sound (Dudley's CSP) - Deb Wright (Analytical Support)