
Community Safety and Community Services Scrutiny Committee
15th March 2012

Report of the Director of Adult, Community & Housing Services

Section 17 – Crime and Disorder Act 1998

Purpose of Report

1. To review the work that DACHS is involved in that contributes towards fulfilling the obligations of Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

Background

2. The 1998 Crime and Disorder Act places an obligation on local authorities and the police to co-operate in the development and implementation of a strategy for tackling crime and disorder. The causes of crime and disorder are complex and varied and the Act reflects the view that achieving a reduction in crime and disorder is not solely a matter for the police. Accordingly, Section 17 of the Act imposes a duty on a number of bodies including Local Authorities and the police to:

'Without prejudice to any other obligation imposed upon it exercise its functions with due regard to ... the need to do all it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area.'

3. Section 17 is an 'enabling device' for the promotion of effective crime reduction in the day to day activities of the police and the various services of the local authority.
4. As the Directorate has a range of responsibilities, the report is structured so that each division within the Directorate has contributed to the report highlighting its responsibilities and contributions. These are attached to the report as appendices as listed below.

Appendix 1 – Housing Services
Appendix 2 – Housing Strategy
Appendix 3 - Adult Social Care
Appendix 4 – Libraries, Adult & Community Learning
Appendix 5 – Quality & Commissioning

Finance

5. There is no additional budgetary provision to deliver Section 17 requirements.

Law

6. To fulfil the obligations of Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

Equality Impact

7. The report in itself is not subject to equality impact. The contents of the appendices covers services intended to protect and/or help the more vulnerable in society and equality impact would need to be assessed for each service.

Recommendation

8. Members are asked to note the work undertaken by DACHS in response to Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.



.....
Andrea Pope-Smith
Director of Adult, Community & Housing Services

Contact Officer: Diane Channings, Assistant Director (Housing Services)
Telephone: 01384 815063
Email: diane.channings@dudley.gov.uk