

Select Committee on Community Safety and Community Services
13th September 2007

Report of the Chief Executive

Borough Wide Strategic Assessment

Purpose of Report

1. To advise the Select Committee on the first Dudley Borough Strategic Assessment for the Safe and Sound Dudley Community Safety Partnership.

Background

2. The CDRP (Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership) Reform programme places a requirement on all CDRP's to undertake a strategic assessment commencing in April 2008.
3. Dudley has taken the opportunity to progress this new way of working twelve months prior to it becoming a statutory requirement and to this end has produced it's first borough wide partnership strategic assessment.
4. The process adopted for the CDRP strategic assessment reflected the model used by the police as no national guidance had been issued at this stage. As this was the first assessment to be completed for the borough, the process was undertaken jointly by the police OCU (Operational Command Unit) analysts working together with the community safety analyst.
5. The first stage of the process was to undertake a 'Threat Assessment' this looks at the various crime types to identify which ones pose the most significant risk to the borough both in terms of volume and also seriousness. Once this was completed the findings were presented to representatives of the senior management teams of the police command units, the fire service, and the head of the local authority community safety team to identify the strategic priorities to take forward.
6. The collective decision was based not just on local policing priorities but was also heavily influenced by the LAA (Local Area Agreement) and the stretch targets contained within that agreement. The strategic priorities were identified and agreed upon.
7. The next stage was to undertake detailed analysis on the strategic priorities. For each priority this will include:
 - Current situation
 - Seasonality profile
 - Geographic profile
 - Offender profile

- Victim profile
- Key findings
- Recommendations

8. The first draft was then presented to the same decision making group who agreed upon the findings and the recommendations to be taken forward. The final document was then circulated amongst the broader partnership arena for agreement and later approval at the CDRP Strategic Board.
9. It was recognised at the outset that as this was the first borough strategic assessment to be completed there would be limitations particularly in the type and format of data that would be available and secondly on how the broader partnership would be able to inform, and influence the document. However, there is now a basis and greater understanding from which to build and improve upon.
10. Work is now in progress with the development of the strategic assessment action plan against the recommendations. For further information on the recommendations please contact Kerry Wright, Community Safety on 01384 814 735 or via email kerry.wright@dudley.gov.uk
11. Dudley has been recognised for best practice and it has been proposed that the strategic assessment be used as an example within the national guidance that will support implementation of the CDRP Reform programme.

Finance

12. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report at this stage.

Law

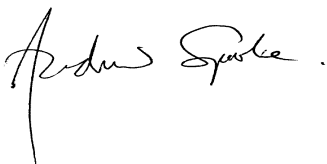
13. The contents of this report are a statutory requirement of the review of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, as of April 2008.

Equality Impact

14. This report is in accordance with the council's equality and diversity policy.

Recommendation

15. It is recommended that the committee note the information contained in this report.



Andrew Sparke
Chief Executive

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