Cheshire East Council

Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee

Agenda

Date:	**Thursday, 17th September, 2009**
Time:	**10.30 am**
Venue:	**Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields, Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ**

The agenda is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and at the foot of each report.

PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT

1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Declarations of Interest/Whipping Declarations**

   To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests or Members to declare the existence of a party whip in relation to any item on the agenda.

3. **Public Speaking Time/Open Session**

   In accordance with Procedure Rules Nos.11 and 35 a total period of 10 minutes is allocated for members of the public to address the Committee on any matter relevant to the work of the Committee.

   Individual members of the public may speak for up to 5 minutes but the Chairman will decide how the period of time allocated for public speaking will be apportioned where there are a number of speakers.

   Note: In order for officers to undertake any background research it would be helpful if questions were submitted at least one working day before the meeting.

4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** (Pages 1 - 4)

For any apologies or requests for further information, or to give notice of a question to be asked by a member of the public
Contact: Katie Smith
Tel: 01270 529771
E-Mail: katie.smith@cheshireeast.gov.uk

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9 July 2009

5.   **Local Development Framework**

To receive a presentation of the Head of Planning and Policy

6.   **Performance Management - The Approach**

To receive a presentation of the Planning and Performance Manager

7.   **Community Warden Service**

To receive a verbal update on the Community Warden Service

8.   **CCTV - Interim Report** (Pages 5 - 12)

To comment on the draft project plan in relation to the review of CCTV

9.   **Strategic Assessment, Safer Cheshire East Partnership** (Pages 13 - 26)

To comment on the draft strategic assessment and make recommendations to the Safer Cheshire East Partnership

10.   **Work Programme** (Pages 27 - 30)

To give consideration to the work programme

Public Document Pack Agenda Item 4

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee**
held on Thursday, 9th July, 2009 at Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields,
Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor H Murray (Chairman)
Councillor J Hammond (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors E Alcock, D Flude, E Gilliland, D Hough, D Stockton, A Thwaite,
R Walker and S Wilkinson

Apologies

Councillor R Parker

In Attendance

Councillor L Smetham

6   **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

7   **PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN SESSION**

There were no Members of the public present who wished to address the
Committee.

8   **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting dated 14 May 2009

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting be approved as a correct record

9   **INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNITY SAFETY**

The Committee gave consideration to a presentation by the Community Safety
Manager on Community Safety. The presentation provided an overview of the
Community Safety Service, including CCTV and Community Wardens and the
role of the CDRP.

It was noted that there were currently 10 wardens in post based in Crewe and
Sandbach with an additional 3 due to based in Macclesfield. The Community
Warden Service was due to be reviewed and would be harmonised across the
Borough, the Committee agreed to have an input into this review.

With regard to the CDRP, it was noted that it was a requirement of the Crime and
Disorder Act 1998 to undertake a Strategic Assessment and produce a plan. It
was agreed that a copy of the Plan and a breakdown of the funding received from
Central Government would be circulated to all Members of the Committee.

RESOLVED

1. That the presentation be noted
2. That the Committee give consideration to the review of Community Wardens and the CDRP Plan

10 LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

The Committee gave consideration to a presentation on Local Area Agreements (LAA). It was reported that a LAA was a 3 year negotiated agreement, which set out the priorities for a local area, agreed between, Central Government, a local area and other key partners, the primary aim of which was to deliver better outcomes for local people.

With regard to Cheshire East's LAA it was noted that Cheshire's LAA for 2008/2011 had been disaggregated between East and West. The East's LAA had 34 designated improvement targets, the responsibilities for which were being agreed between the relevant agencies and thematic partners. Copies of the 34 targets were circulated to Members of the Committee.

The presentation also outlined the value of LAA's the financial implications, the role and powers of scrutiny and the milestones.

The Committee agreed that Cheshire East's LAA would be reviewed in 6 months time.

RESOLVED

1. That the presentation be noted
2. That Cheshire East's LAA be reviewed in 6 months time

11 WORK PROGRAMME

Consideration was given to the draft work programme. It was agreed that the following amendments would be made:

17 September 2009	Review of Community Wardens Strategic Assessment - CDRP Plan
19 November 2009	Review of LAA Community Safety Strategy
21 January 2010	Review of CDRP Plan

RESOLVED

That the work programme be amended to include the above issues

The meeting commenced at 10.30 and concluded at 12.40

Councillor H Murray (Chairman)

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Agenda Item 8

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee

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Date of Meeting: 17th September 2009
Report of: Tony Potts
Subject/Title: CCTV Review

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1.0   Report Summary

1.1   The report sets out a detailed project plan, highlighting the key issues that will identify cost effective solutions, meeting the needs of the council, in ensuring its effective delivery of its CCTV systems. The report covers all CCTV cameras within Cheshire east and includes, traffic monitoring cameras.

2.0   Recommendations

2.1   To comment on the draft project plan in relation to the review of CCTV within Cheshire East. (Appendix A)

3.0   Reasons for Recommendations

3.1   Inform members of the scope of the project and the timetable for the review.

4.0   Wards Affected

4.1   All

5.0   Local Ward Members

5.1   All

6.0   Policy Implications including

6.1   N/A

7.0   Financial Implications for Transition Costs

7.1   None

8.0   Financial Implications 2009/10 and beyond

8.1   This will be subject to the scope of the review, and the potential need for capital investment. A capital bid of 50K has been identified for this financial year, which will cover the costs to undertake a full audit of the three existing systems.

and will identify areas for improvement. Further capital has been identified for 2010/2011, to complete the project.

9.0   Legal Implications

9.1   None, subject to the comments of the scrutiny committee.

10.0   Risk Management

10.1   Ensure the council complies with its legal obligations, in relation to Data protection and human rights, which could impact upon the council's reputation.

11.0   Background and Options

11.1   Following a presentation by the community safety manager at the last scrutiny committee, members requested that a report in relation to the review of CCTV within Cheshire east be discussed at its next meeting, on the 17th September 2009.

12.0   Overview of Year One and Term One Issues

12.1   N/A

13.0   *Access to Information*

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

Name: Tony Potts
Designation: Community Safety Manager
Tel No: 01270 529869
Email: Tony.Potts@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Project Brief – CCTV Rationalisation

Background

Cheshire East Council formed on the 1 April 2009 and inherited CCTV infrastructure from the former District and County Councils. There are 3 independent legacy systems using a mix of technologies managed under individual arrangements by in-house staff or by external contractors. The existing control rooms are in Macclesfield, Sandbach and Crewe with cameras located across the Borough. Each control room is operating under individual remits with varying levels of cover depending on the priorities of the previous administrations. It has been recognised that there are significant potential savings in reviewing the remit of CCTV operations and rationalising the use across the Borough.

Project Definition

Project Objectives

The project has the following objectives:

- Understand the functions within the new organisation which would benefit from the continued use of rationalised CCTV infrastructure (i.e. identify the Senior Users of the system and their requirements, ensuring the new system is 'fit for purpose')
- Undertake a study to identify cost effective solutions that will meet the needs of the Senior Users of the new infrastructure and the strategic desires of the Council
- Develop a costing model that proves the rationalisation is cost effective through external funding or re-investment of revenue savings offsetting the significant capital borrowing required of the solution (i.e. involve Procurement expertise within the Council as our Senior Supplier)
- Deliver the chosen solution/s that will meet the outcomes outlined within this document and the requirements of the Users

Project Scope and Exclusions

The project will review/find solution to the following:

- All existing CCTV infrastructure, it's technologies and operational remit
- Any legal frameworks, external agreements, 'code of practices'
- Competency of staff operating the infrastructure and potential training improvements
- The location of current cameras and their 'fit' into future strategic requirements
- Investigate potential links with other areas of Council activity (i.e. UTC highway operations)
- Investigate 'out of hours' arrangements
- Commissioning work that will provide a mandate for an external contractor to manage and deliver changes to the infrastructure. Design and Build is the likely procurement route at this time. This may be reviewed following input from procurement services

The project will exclude the following:

- Work relating to the strategic assessment of Crime and Disorder in the Borough

- Managing the construction of the final infrastructure solutions
- Measuring of benefits to ensure they achieve the outcomes outlined in this document

Outline Project Deliverables and Outcomes

The project will deliver products that aim to meet the following outcomes:

- Reduced operating costs of the CCTV function to the Council
- An established legal framework and 'Code of Practice'
- Improved evidential quality images for use in legal proceedings
- Improved relationships with key stakeholders/users of the infrastructure (i.e. Police)
- Competent, qualified and fully trained operators (DPA/HRA/RIPA)
- A network of cameras that meets the future needs of crime and disorder
- Improved customer perception of 'feeling safe' in neighbourhoods and towns within Cheshire East

Key deliverables of the project will be:

- CCTV User working group (with representation on the Project Board as Senior User)
- 'Future needs' document from working group that forms the basis of a consultant Options Appraisal which will form the Business Case for the Project
- Options Appraisal on potential rationalisation solutions, including implementation costs based on strategic assessment of Crime and Disorder requirements and likely revenue savings
- External funding streams/agreed internal borrowing arrangements
- Agreed and signed legal framework by key users
- Training programme for staff
- Detailed report on work required to deliver rationalisation solutions
- Tender and Contract to deliver final solution
- Regular communications with external stakeholders on benefits and progress achieving 'buy in'
- Plan to ensure Service continuity as new solution is implemented

Constraints

The following constraints have been identified:

- Cheshire East Council is recently established and faces significant financial constraints, this may affect the 'risk appetite' of Corporate Management and the scope of the project
- Systems within the Council that support the current CCTV operations are legacy from previous authorities and will need to be maintained as this project delivers
- Due to staffing reductions in line with budget constraints, there is no internal resource available to lead and manage delivery of this project. Costs will need to include external project management expertise

Interfaces

The following interfaces have been recognised:

- A wider LGR accommodation review is underway and any solutions involving location changes to control rooms will need to be fed into this review

- 'Business as Usual' Operations within Community Safety division of the Council and key users identified in the CCTV User working group
- Depending on the size and risk of the solution, interfaces with central government Office of Government Commerce to undertake Gateway Reviews
- Procurement Unit involvement in the major procurement exercise
- Legal Services involvement in the contract preparation activities and legal frameworks

Outline Business Case

The business case will be developed in detail from the 'Future Needs' document and Options Appraisal which will justify the new infrastructure changes financially and prove that it can deliver improvements that meet the wider needs of the Council. However, initiation of this rationalisation is driven by the following:

- A rationalised CCTV system will support the following Key Performance Indicators:

NI 15	Serious violent crime	POLICE
NI 16	Serious acquisitive crime	POLICE
NI 17	Perceptions of anti-social behaviour	CEC
NI 20 / LAA 4	Assault with injury crime rate	LAA
NI 21 / LAA 5	Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police	LAA
NI 27	Understanding of local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police	CEC
NI 28	Serious knife crime rate	POLICE
NI 29	Gun crime rate	POLICE
NI 35	Building resilience to violent extremism	POLICE
NI 36	Protection against terrorist attack	POLICE
NI 38	Drug-related (Class A) offending	POLICE
NI 41	Perceptions of drunk or rowdy behaviour as a problem	CEC
NI 42	Perceptions of drug use or drug dealing as a problem	CEC
NI 143	Offenders under probation supervision living in settled and suitable accommodation at the end of their order or licence	PROBATION
NI 182	Satisfaction of business with local authority regulatory services	CEC/DISTRICTS
NI 190	Achievement in meeting standards for the control system for animal health	CEC
LAA 36	Reported incidents of ASB	LAA
LAA 37	Increase in proportion of non-Police referrals to the Cheshire DAFSUs and MARACs	LAA
LAA 38	Alcohol arrest referrals	LAA
LAA 39	(Anti-social behaviour - criminal damage)	LAA

- Current operation of the 3 separate CCTV systems is seen as costly with significant savings achievable from rationalisation.
- The accommodation strategy requires better use of existing accommodation tailored to the needs of service delivery.
- Supports the Corporate plan which aims to remove many of the barriers that have in the past hindered the delivery of high quality, joined up public services.

Project Tolerances

The Project will agree tolerances with the Project Board as soon as a financially viable option has been chosen but the key tolerances will be:

- Time - A detailed project plan will be agreed with the Project Board that will specify a timeframe for delivery and agreed tolerances around these timescales without having to return the Project Board for approval
- Cost – A detailed study of costs will be agreed with the Project Board that will include:
    - Development Costs – Costs to deliver the solution based on detailed estimates
    - Contingency Costs – Costs assigned and previously agreed with the Project Board for use should a major risk to the project become an issue
    - Change Budget – Costs assigned and previously agreed with the Project Board for use should the User Group change the specification of the solution
    - Tolerance – A cost 'window' around the development cost that allows the project to manage 'real' costs without returning to the Project Board for approval
- The Project Board may also wish to empower the Project to reduce Scope, risk appetite or benefits should the above tolerance of time and cost be inflexible.

Key Risks

Risks will be managed in a Risk Log. However, the following key risks have been identified:

- Lack of internal resource and expertise to deliver the project
- Loosing continuity of the project as the wider LGR transformation activities impact on staff
- The delivery timetable does not meet the savings requirements already pressuring the Directorate
- Unable to agree a suitable financial model that will support the implementation of the solution
- Changes to the specification of the end solution after it has been formally agreed

Outline Project Plan

The Project will be divided into 5 distinct stages:

Stage 1- Start-up and initiation of the Project (Nov - Dec 09)

- Appointment of a Project Executive and full time Project Manager
- Design of a Project Management team
- Initial outline costs for each stage of the Project
- Appointing of the Project Management team (including representation of the Senior Supplier on Project Board)
- Forming the CCTV User Working group (Senior User represented on Project Board)
- Commissioning of 'Future needs' document that will form the Business Case, Project Plan and Project Initiation Documentation

Key decision to invest in next stage:

- Project Board formally 'sign off' the Business Case, Project Plan and PID and agree to proceed to Business Justification. To agree costs to deliver next stage.

Stage 2 – Business Justification (Dec 09 – Feb 10)

- Agreement on Customer's quality expectations of the new rationalised system
- Agreement on the minimum Acceptance Criteria (which if can't be met at any point signifies early close down of the project)
- Complete the Options Appraisal including detailed costs/savings
- Scope procurement strategies and bid for external funding/internal borrowing arrangements
- Decide on final solutions to be implemented
- Detailed descriptions of deliverables expected from the project and revise Project Plan based on chosen solution

Key Decision to invest in next stage:

- Project Board formally 'sign off' the agreed solution/s and to proceed with implementation of procurement activities to deliver the chosen solution/s. Agree costs to deliver next stage

Stage 3 – Procurement Strategy & Investment Decision (Design) (Feb – Mar 10)

- Prepare Tender and Contract to deliver final solutions
- Undertake competitive procurement activities
- Award and implement Contract
- Bring on board early contractor involvement (new Senior Supplier on Project Board) who will be responsible for delivering the final infrastructure
- Detailed design of new solution in conjunction with the Contractor

Key Decision to invest in next stage:

- Project Board formally 'sign off' the award of the contract and authorisation to spend Capital Costs for construction

Stage 4 – Readiness for Service (Build) (Apr –Dec 10)

- Agree legal framework and 'code of practices' for the new service provision
- Implement training programme for staff using any new systems
- Devise new systems that will be initiated when system goes 'live'
- Manage the Contract as construction activities take place
- Prepare and implement a Service Continuity Plan to ensure CCTV operations continues as new systems go 'live'
- Prepare communications for launch of new service to ensure Customer perception is influenced

Key Decision to invest in final stage:

- Project Board formally 'sign off' that the solution meets the original Acceptance Criteria and inform Corporate Management that the project is complete and closing

Stage 5 – Closing the Project (Jan 11)

- Initiate a Project Evaluation review looking at Lessons Learned for future projects undertaken by the Council
- Collect and document new maintenance and operational procedures for the new solution/s
- Collect and designate responsibility for 'Follow on actions' (activities that still need to be done but not part of this project)

Key Decision:

- Project Board official close project and disband the Project Management Team

The dates provided above are indicative only and detailed planning can take place at the end of Stage 1 and revised based on the chosen solution at the end of Stage 2.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee
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Date of Meeting: 17th September 2009
Report of: Tony Potts
Subject/Title: Strategic Assessment, Safer Cheshire East Partnership
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1.0   Report Summary

1.1   The strategic assessment is required to look at reported crime, anti-social behaviour, environmental crime, neighbourhood and community issues and recommend priorities and possible courses of action to address them

2.0   Recommendations

2.1   To comment on the draft strategic assessment, and make recommendations to the Safer Cheshire East Partnership (Appendix A)

3.0   Reasons for Recommendations

3.1   Inform members of reported crime and incidents of disorder
       Identify longer term trends over the past three years

4.0   Wards Affected

4.1   All

5.0   Local Ward Members

5.1   All

6.0   Policy Implications including

6.1   N/A

7.0   Financial Implications for Transition Costs

7.1   None

8.0   Financial Implications 2009/10 and beyond

8.1

		Revenue	Capital
Funding Source:	Area Based Grant	308,604	105,158
	Second Home Taxation	129,531	
Total Funding		**438,135**	**105,158**

9.0   Legal Implications

9.1   None, subject to the comments of the scrutiny committee.

10.0   Risk Management

10.1   Ensure the council complies with its legal obligations, in relation to the crime and disorder act 1998.

11.0   Background and Options

11.1   Following a presentation by the community safety manager at the last scrutiny committee, members requested that a report in relation to the Safer Cheshire East Partnership and further information relating to the Strategic assessment be presented at its next meeting, on the 17th September 2009. Safer partnerships are required by law to produce an annual strategic assessment. This is a survey of crime and disorder levels and trends over the past year (and up to three years). It is used for planning future partnership activity as part of a three year rolling annual plan to reduce the levels of crime and disorder and its impact on the community.

12.0   Overview of Year One and Term One Issues

12.1   N/A

13.0   *Access to Information*

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

Name: Tony Potts
Designation: Community Safety Manager
Tel No: 01270 529869
Email: Tony.Potts@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Strategic Assessment Executive Summary

Purpose of a Strategic Assessment

Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships are required by law to produce an annual 'strategic assessment'. This is a survey of crime and disorder levels and trends over the past year (and up to three years). It is used as for planning future Partnership activity as part of a three year rolling annual plan to reduce the levels of crime and disorder and its impact on the community.

The strategic assessment is required to look at reported crime, anti-social behaviour, environmental crime, neighbourhood and community issues and recommend priorities and possible courses of action to address them.

The requirement and partners involved are set out in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 as amended by the Police and Justice Act 2006. Guidance on the information that should be included and the format of a strategic assessment are set out in Statutory Instruments 3076 (2007) and 1931 (2007), as well as the 'Delivering Community Safety: A Guide to Effective Partnership Working' and 'Developing a Strategic Assessment' published by the Home Office in 2007

Scope

This strategic assessment looks at reported crime and incidents of disorder, together with other relevant data for the period July 2007 to June 2008 (inclusive). It also looks at longer term trends over the past three years, and social and demographic data for the whole of the new Cheshire East area. This has been facilitated by the co-terminosity of the authority area with the existing police Basic Command Unit and the development of a cross-Cheshire data sharing and viewing tool, 'CoStar'.

It should be acknowledged that there are always going to be issues and problems with the accuracy and reliability of different datasets in developing a partnership strategic assessment

A strategic assessment is not intended to be a definitive scientific snapshot of crime at a given point but the start of a process to address those issues of crime and disorder that most impact on the people living and working in the area.

The value of the strategic assessment, accepting that there is no such thing as definitively accurate data in social research, is that it is the start of a process of action research intended to reduce crime and increase feelings of safety.

Context

Cheshire East has a population of 358,900 and an area of 116,638 hectares. This is 5% of the North West's population and makes it one of the largest unitary authorities in the region. East Cheshire is bounded by Manchester to the north and east, and Stoke on Trent to the south. It contains the industrial town of Crewe, the old mill towns of Macclesfield, Bollington and Congleton, the market towns of Nantwich, Knutsford and Sandbach, the salt town of Middlewich, the commuter town of Wilmslow, as well as the smaller settlements of Holmes Chapel and Poynton.
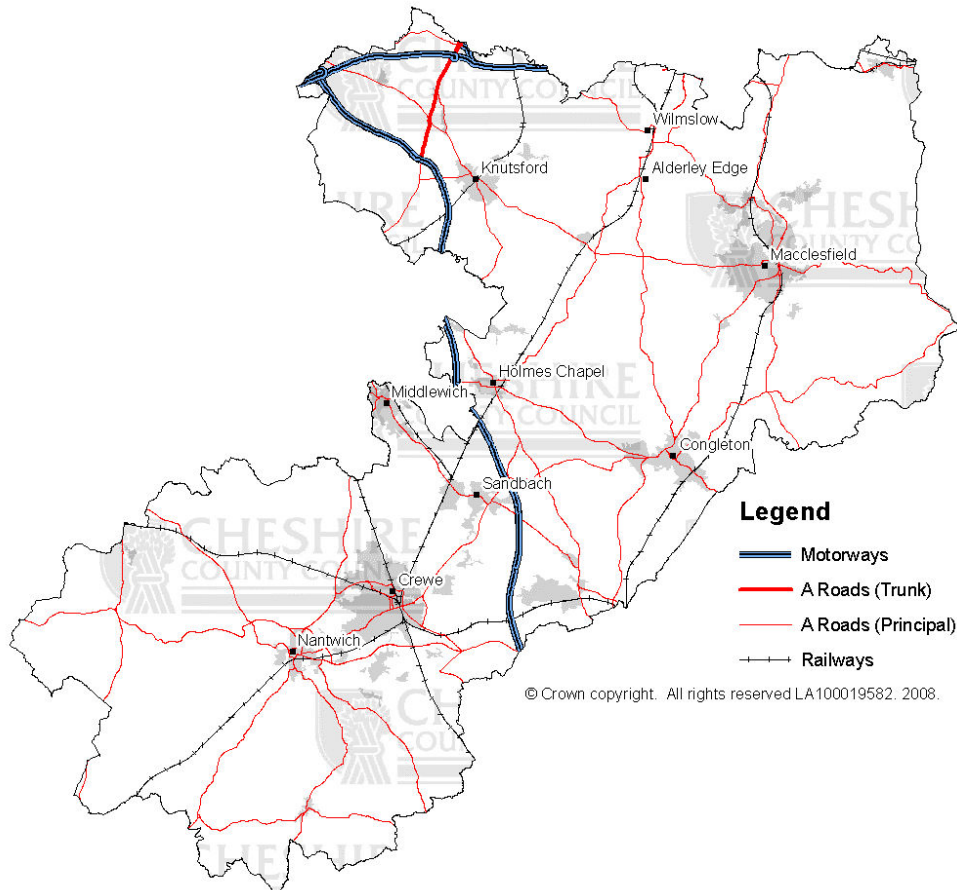
The age structure of the Cheshire East population is slightly older than that of England & Wales:

- 5% of Cheshire East's population is aged under 5
- 12% are aged 5 to 14
- 18% are aged 65 or more

Population projections suggest that there will be around 5% fewer children living in Cheshire East by 2026 than there were in 2006 and that t he number of people aged 85+ will double.

In 2001, there were 147,144 households with residents in Cheshire East. Household composition generally reflected the England & Wales patterns.

25% of Cheshire East households were all pensioner households of these 21,118 (57%) were pensioners living alone.

In 2006 the average house price was £210,600 compared to the North West average £157,500. In 2006 there were 160,700 dwellings in Cheshire East with the highest percentage in Council tax band C (20%).

96% of the population of Cheshire East were born in the UK, while the 2005 ethnicity estimates class 3% of the population as 'non-white'.

Census 2001 indicated that 32% of the population were managerial and professional workers (compared to 18% in the North West and 21% in England and Wales). 19% were semi-skilled and unskilled manual workers, in line with the North West average and slightly above the England and Wales.

The area's population has a higher than average level of qualifications compared to the region and country as a whole, and lower than average unemployment rate. Census measures of health of the population also indicate that it has a lower than average rate of limiting long term illness, and lower rates of Disability allowances

In 2006 167,600 of the Cheshire East population was in employment with 17% working in manufacturing and 77% in services compared to 11% and 83% nationally.

The average household income was £37,000 with employment concentrations in chemicals and pharmaceuticals, 'non-metallic mineral products', agriculture, rubber and plastic products and computing services.

Vehicle ownership levels reinforce the impression of Cheshire East as a fairly well off area with 82% of households in 2001 owning at least one vehicle (compared to 73% nationally), and 40% of households owning 2 or more vehicles.

However, there are pockets of deprivation in Cheshire East, with 14 areas that fall within the top 20% most deprived areas in England. All are in the urban areas withtwo2 in Wilmslow, one in Macclesfield, one in Congleton and ten in Crewe. (See map, below[1])

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[1] Cheshire East Summary, CCC R&I, February 2008

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These areas are home to 6% of Cheshire East's population (over 21,000 people) and are areas that experience various levels of deprivation across a range of Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 'domains':

- Income
- Employment
- Health Deprivation and Disability
- Education, Skills and Training
- Barriers to Housing and Services
- Crime
- Living Environment

Community Views

In the 2007 Cheshire Omnibus Survey the majority of East Cheshire residents (92%) liked living in their home area. When respondents were asked specifically about their quality of life (from the 2005 Quality of Life Survey) 2% described it as very good and a further 44% described it as quite good. 1% said it was very or quite poor[2]

The Cheshire Community Survey 2008[3], found that people considered three best ways of improving the quality of life in their local area were addressing

- Issues for children & young people,
- Affordable housing

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[2] Cheshire East Profile, Cheshire County Council R&I Unit, February 2008
[3] Cheshire Community Survey 2008, Cheshire East Summary, CCC R&I, Oct 2008 (conducted to support the development of the Community Strategy)

– Making the community even safer

However, in the more deprived areas there is a significant difference in the order of priority, with 'Making the community even safer' the top priority, followed by 'Worklessness' and 'Affordable housing'.

Various partner agency surveys over the last two years have shown that low levels of crime are consistently seen as important in making somewhere a good place to live, along with clean streets and health services. There have been small increases in feelings of safety at day and night, and in the number of people who think crime has fallen, though around 1/6th are unsure.[4]

Anti Social Behaviour and Crime are still seen as important issues, though some other things also need to be addressed to improve quality of life. Perceptions of Anti-Social Behaviour in Cheshire East are generally better than in other parts of Cheshire, and there appears to have been some shift in emphasis in surveys away from Crime & ASB as a problem, with activities for teenagers, and highways issues (congestion and maintenance) seen as more in need of improvement[5]

Scanning & Prioritisation

In order identify strategic priorities and recommend action, the team collated data on recorded crime, police incidents, and primary and secondary fires direct from the police and fire service. The 'Co-Star' project is a data sharing project across key agencies with statutory duty to share data relevant to crime and disorder reduction. It is an evolving project, but has provided access to additional data sets such as A&E admissions, ambulance pick-ups, socio-demographic and other data. Additional datasets on anti-social behaviour reports to Registered Social Landlords or the existing district councils were not included due to issues of recording and accessibility. However these data sets may be utilised in the future for more in-depth analysis of specific issues as appropriate.

Crime and ASB scanning looked at both crime or ASB type *and* geographic distribution, in terms of police beats. This was intended to provide a fuller picture than a concentration on crime type alone. Rather than volume of crime alone (i.e. number or 'count'), the rate of crime by area and the cost of crime to society and the justice system was used to assist in prioritisation.

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[4] Neighbourhood Policing Surveys, 2006 and 2007, Cheshire Constabulary.
[5] County and District Council quality of life/ Best Value and Omnibus surveys, 2005 to 2007/8.

Cost of Crime in Cheshire East[6]

Cost to CJS Agencies
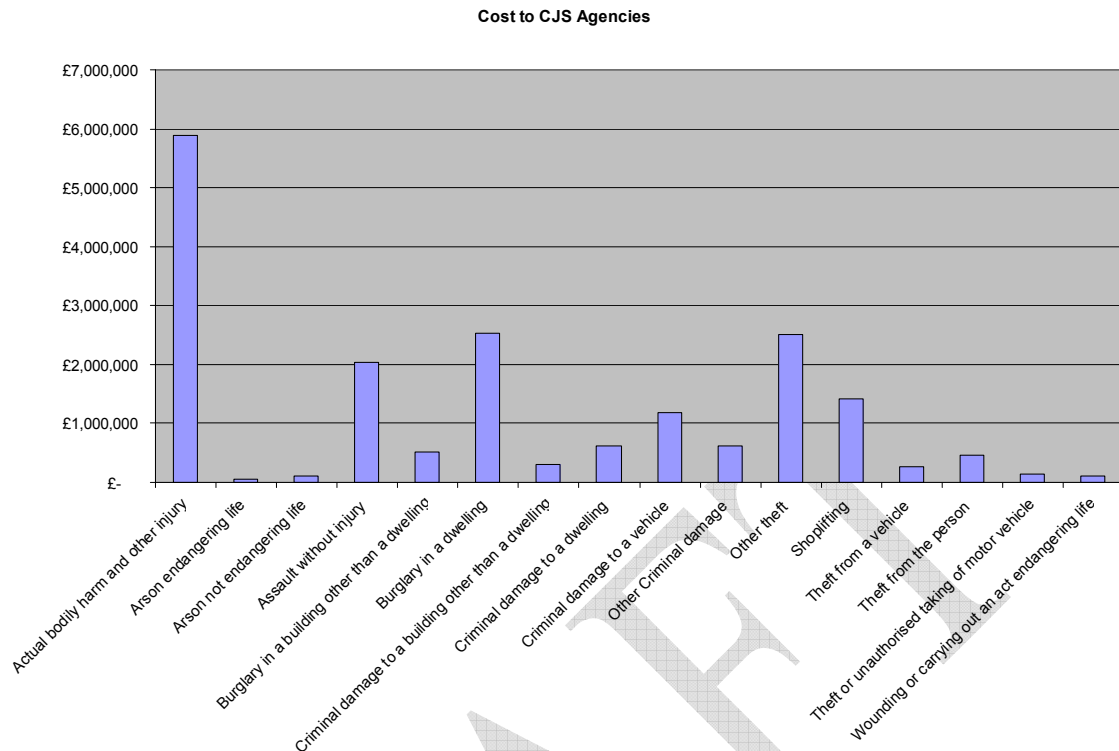
The total cost of crime in Cheshire East to the criminal justice system in the period under consideration was £18m.

The cost to the Criminal Justice System was used to assess the impact on the partnership. However the overall personal, social an economic cost has also been used to assess the relative impact on society. The table below indicates the relative costs of four broad categories of personal and property crime.

Cost	Violent Crime[7]	Criminal Damage[8]	Burglary[9]	Theft & Shoplifting
Personal, social and economic cost	£40.7m	£18m	£8.25m	£8.2m
Criminal Justice System Cost	£7.9m	£2.8m	£3m	£3.9m

The highest cost to society was from violent offences, followed by criminal damage, burglary and then theft and shoplifting. However the relative cost to the Criminal Justice System is slightly different with the order becoming Violence, Theft/shoplifting, burglary and criminal damage. This is due to the

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[6] Economic & Social Cost of Crime, Home Office ON line Report 30/05, all costs at 2003 prices.
[7] Assault with injury and assault without injury
[8] Criminal Damage to dwelling, vehicle, other buildings and 'other'
[9] Burglary Dwelling and Burglary Other

high personal, property and social costs attributed to violence, burglary and criminal damage on one hand, and the large volume of crime that is theft and shoplifting on the other. However, there are other issue to do with theft that raises its profile as a crime issue in the area. Anecdotal evidence has been supported by analysis indicating that there is a clear link between repeat offending and drug use with 76% of identified repeat offenders being drug users. As interventions like the Prolific Offender Scheme appear to cut the cost of burglary to the CJS, similar targeting of repeat offenders in theft and shoplifting could impact on the volume crime area.

Top 25 Cost to Criminal Justice System
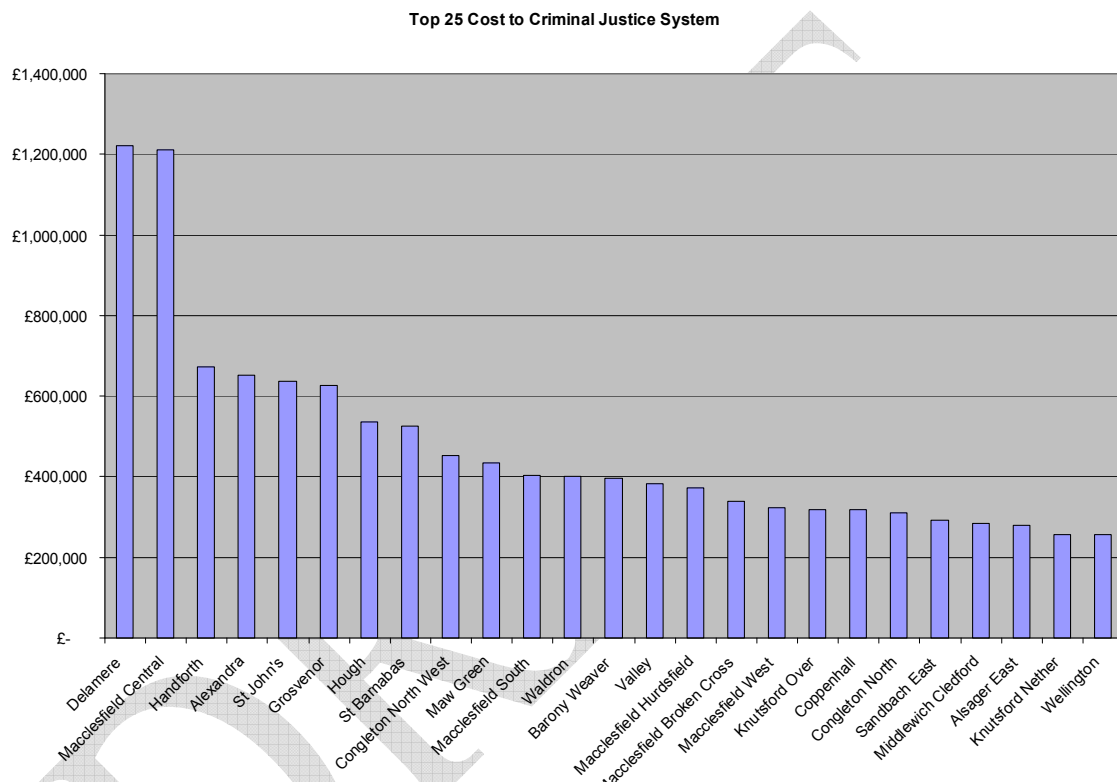
The above graph shows the top twenty five beats (pre unitary wards) by cost to the criminal justice system.

Generally, these beats are those that contain town centre with retail and evening economy, and those which contain area that fall within the top 20% most deprived wards in England.

This is due in part to the levels of violent crime associated with town centres, but also with the range and volume of crime that afflicts some of our neighbourhoods.

Anti Social Behaviour

There are a number of issues over the classification and definition of anti-social behaviour. It is largely a subjective issue, with the only accepted definition in law being behaviour likely to cause harassment, alarm or distress

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to someone not of the same household. The reporting and recording of antisocial behaviour is therefore itself subjective relying on the perceptions of the 'offender' and 'victim' as to what is 'anti-social', but also reliant on the perception of the person who is recording the incident on whom the final classification depends.

Between July 2007 and June 2008 there were 100,561 reported incidents (or 'calls for service') to the police from Cheshire East. Of these 18,245, or 18%, were classified as Anti-Social Behaviour 'types'. Of the 18,245 'ASB' calls to the police 2,564 concerned vehicle nuisance (on and off road, including parking nuisance), 1,462 were neighbour disputes and 1, 2776 malicious calls. Other calls were classified as Abandoned Vehicles (767) and animal related - minor bites, noise or fouling (404).

The largest classification, accounting for 60% of 'Anti-Social Behaviour' and 11% of all calls to the police in the area is called 'rowdy/loutish/drunken behaviour etc in a public place'

This is the largest category of 'ASB', but also perhaps the most broadly or ill defined. Other categories include prostitution related activity (only 4 incidents reported), or street drinking (61 incidents) or begging (41). 'Rowdy/loutish/drunken' can include 'gatherings', 'football in the wrong place', etc and is something of a catch all. Given the volume, however, analysis of 'anti-social behaviour' issues was concentrated on this category.

The cost of ASB to the partnership and society was calculated using an average figure per incident taken from that used by the Home Office One-Day count of ASB.[10] The total cost for the year was estimated at £2.2million, which is probably an underestimate, however, it is considerably less than the costs of crime indicated earlier.

The chart below indicates the 21 beats (or pre-unitary wards) out of 85 that have the highest reported rates of ASB (per thousand residents) and also account for 57% of the cost of ASB in Cheshire East.

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[10] It is impossible to breakdown the reported incidents under rowdy/loutish behaviour into type of ASB and so assign specific estimates. ASB One Day Count, Home Office Figure used is £205 per incident

Cost of ASB in Top 21 Beats by Rate
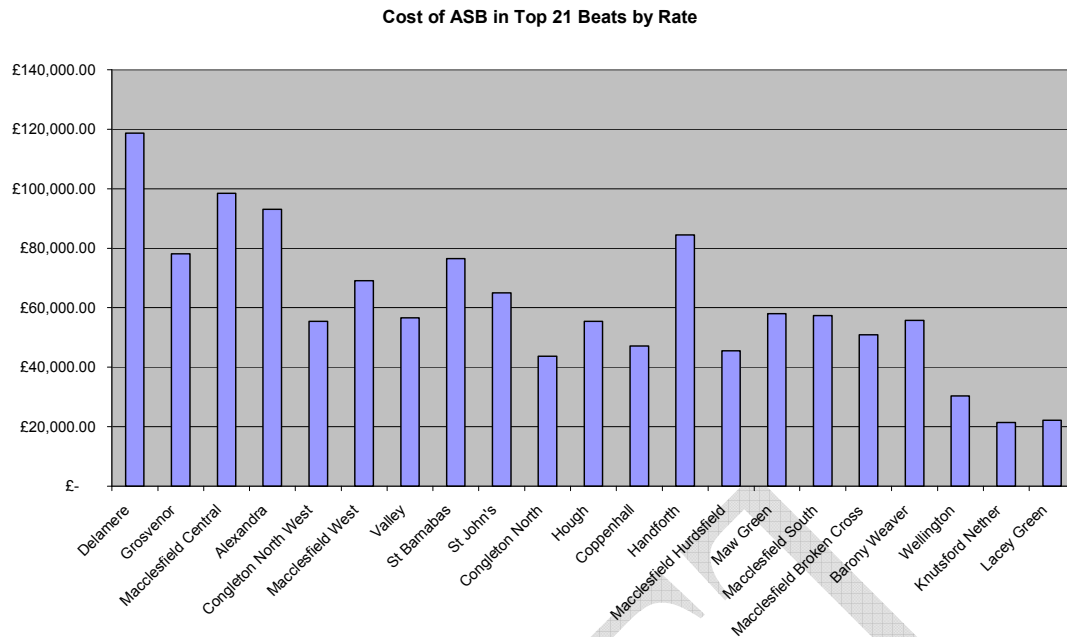
Again, it will be noted that town centres and beats which contain areas of multiple deprivation feature prominently in this list, across the Cheshire East area.

Arson: Deliberate Small Fires

Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service provided analysis and background data on deliberate small fires across Cheshire East. A map of the distribution of fires can be found in the appendix (??). Rates of deliberate small fires per ten thousand population are shown in the chart below:

Average Three Year Rate of deliberate small fires by beat

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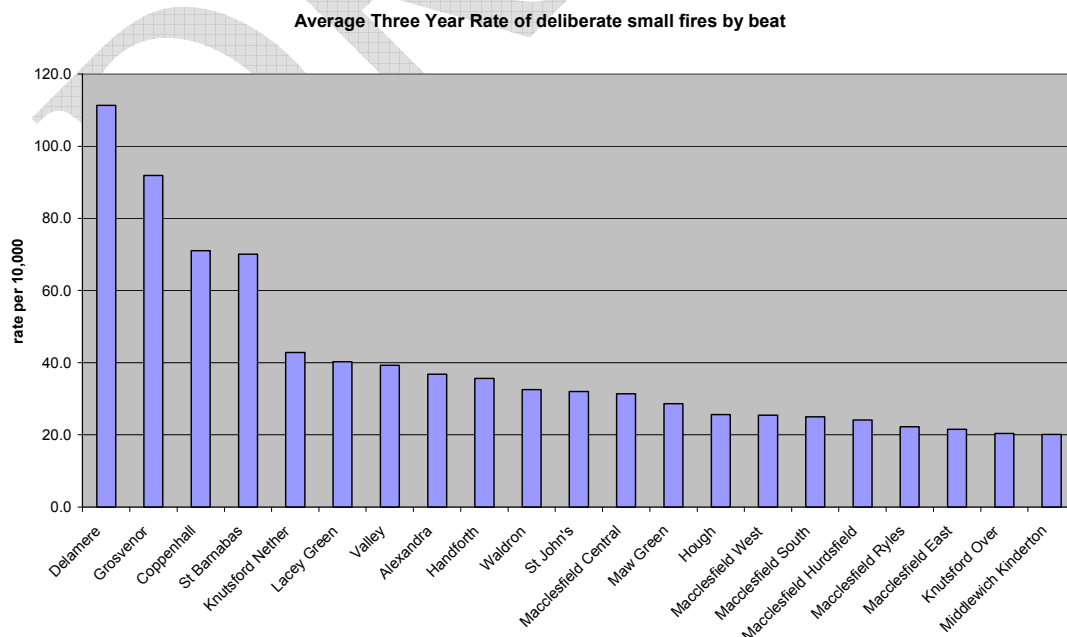
This indicates a mix of areas, but again mainly areas with relatively deprived neighbourhoods, often social housing and the two main towns feature.

Prioritisation of local Crime & Disorder Issues

Within the context of the Local Area Agreement, it is accepted that certain issues have to be prioritised beyond the findings of the local crime analysis. Some issues are considered to be universal and even Cheshire wide, such as Drugs Action, Domestic Violence and Road Safety. As such they have their own thematic partnerships which produce assessments of their own. This Crime & Disorder assessment therefore includes issues like Road Safety and Domestic Violence with reports from the lead Partnerships in those areas. *(NOTE: to be added)*

It is clear from the initial scan and broad level analysis that that crime and disorder (including 'ASB', arson and other issues) disproportionately affects two types of area within Cheshire East.

These are town centres with areas of daytime retail trade and usually concentrations of licensed premises associated with an evening economy as well, and residential areas, primarily those with issues of multiple deprivation, of which one is the crime level.

Cheshire East is made up of a collection of towns, all providing retail and entertainment centres and all affected by similar types of crime and disorder issues – shoplifting, theft, vehicle crime, evening economy disorder and ASB.

However there is a need to discriminate between the types and causes of crime and anti-social behaviour in these types of location. Analysis indicates that not all 'violent crime' in these areas is associated with the evening economy, also the towns display drastic variations in levels of theft and shoplifting (whether due to levels of intervention is not known). There is also a need to be more discerning when looking at 'anti-social behaviour' as this splits between that associated with young people earlier in the evening and that attributed to drunkenness and the evening economy.

Other areas suffer relatively high levels of ASB, Arson, damage to buildings and vehicles, burglary and other burglary. These tend to be areas or relatively high deprivation. Not all are social hosing, though some are. In these areas there can be lower confidence in the agencies and there are multiple issues associated with quality of life such as littering, vandalism, fouling and up keep of the 'public realm' which contribute to lower feelings of safety and dissatisfaction.

In some of the areas the 'town centre' and residential areas overlap and here feelings of safety are affected both by the fall out from the night time economy and the day to day experience of 'ASB' and minor crime.

The partnership should recognise the need to address the issues of crime, disorder and feelings of safety across the whole of Cheshire East, but, it

should also recognise that it must prioritise and target its resources where they can have the greatest impact and where there is the greatest need.

Recommendations

This partnership strategic assessment has been conducted alongside the Police BCU Strategic Assessment, using the same period for analysis, and in the case of crime and ASB the same data. It is therefore not the intention to make operational level recommendations in tackling specific crime types such as would be found in the police assessment.

Rather, it is the role of the partnership to focus on the broader strategic themes ad identify the areas where deeper partnership and multi-agency working can 'add value' to the partners' core business.

Two broad themes are evident from the analysis.

The first is the need to maintain operational activity and processes that have successfully reduced crime across Cheshire East over the last three years.

The second is to develop approaches to crime and disorder that has the most impact on people, and which most concerns them. Therefore an emphasis should be placed on the strategic management of crime and disorder in our towns and in those neighbourhoods that suffer most.

An approach to the strategic management of towns, in terms of licensing and planning policy, enforcement, crime prevention and engagement with businesses to assist in the prevention of crime and ASB should contribute to reducing fear of crime, as it is often the reputation of a town centre that prevents people feeling safe and using them more.

Similarly, a strategic approach to the reduction of crime and disorder in our less well off neighbourhoods, one which address the 'signal' nature of much environmental crime and vandalism, that tackles the specific issues in that neighbourhood and which engages with and increases the confidence of the residents (and their landlords) to contribute to improving where they live. This could be through working with the Local Area Partnerships and engaging with the community and partners to fit the approach to the specific areas.

Key Priorities:

Public Confidence and Area Working	Police Authority lead	NI 4 - % of people who feel they can influence decisions in the locality NI 21 – Dealing with local concerns about ASB and crime by the local council and police
Anti Social Behaviour	Cheshire Police lead	NI 33 – Arson incidents LI 37 – Reported

		incidents of ASB LI 39 – Alcohol Arrest Referral LI 40 – ASB – criminal damage
Preventing Offending	Cheshire Probation Service	NI 18 – Adult re-offending rate NI 30 – re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders
Protected Towns	Cheshire East Council	NI 20 – Assault with injury rate
Domestic Abuse	Cheshire Domestic Abuse Forum	NI 32 – Repeat incidents of domestic abuse LI 38 – Increase in proportion of non- police referrals to the DAFSU and MARACs
Road Safety Groups	Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service	NI 47 – People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

REPORT TO: SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

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Date of Meeting: 17 September 2009
Report of: Borough Solicitor And Monitoring Officer
Subject/Title: Work Programme

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1.0   Report Summary

1.1   To consider further the items proposed for inclusion in the Committee's Work Programme and determine which items should be included in the Work Programme for the current municipal year.

2.0   Recommendations

2.1   That the Committee agree its Work Programme.

3.0   Reasons for Recommendations

3.1   It is good practice to agree a Work Programme to enable effective management of the Committee's business.

4.0   Wards Affected

4.1   All

5.0   Local Ward Members

5.1   Not applicable.

6.0   Policy Implications including

6.1   Not known at this stage.

7.0   Financial Implications for Transition Costs

7.1   None identified at the moment.

8.0   Financial Implications 2009/10 and beyond

8.1   Not known at this stage.

9.0   Legal Implications
9.1   None.

10.0 Risk Management

10.1 There are no identifiable risks.

11.0 Background and Options

11.1 At the last meeting of the Committee, Members considered a list of potential items for the Work Programme

11.2 The Committee is now invited to consider and determine a Work Programme, decide a priority order, agree timescales and methodology – for example, whether items should be dealt with by a Task/Finish Panel, at the main Committee etc.

11.3 To assist the Committee, each of the issue highlighted in the work programme should be assessed against the following criteria:

- Does the issue fall within a corporate priority
- Is the issue of key interest to the public
- Does the matter relate to a poor or declining performing service for which there is no obvious explanation
- Is there a pattern of budgetary overspends
- Is it a matter raised by external audit management letters and or audit reports.
- Is there a high level of dissatisfaction with the service

If during the assessment process any of the following emerge, then the topic should be rejected:

- The topic is already being addressed elsewhere
- The matter is subjudice
- Scrutiny cannot add value or is unlikely to be able to conclude an investigation within the specified timescale

12.0 Overview of Year One and Term One Issues

12.1 It is good practice to have a Work Programme for the Committee to consider and prioritise on a regular basis.

13.0 Access to Information

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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Version 1 April 2009 (SH)

Issue	Policy Development	Scrutiny	Briefing	Priority
CDRP			9 July 2009	High
LAA			9 July 2009	High
Enforcement Policy	17 September 2009			Medium
CCTV – Interim report	17 September 2009			Medium
Community wardens	17 September 2009			Medium
Strategic Assessment	17 September 2009			Medium
Performance Management		17 September 2009		High
LDF from the Sustainable Communities Perspective	17 September 2009			High
Community Safety Strategy	19 November 2009			Medium
Enforcement Policy	19 November 2009			Medium
Review of LAA – is it working?		19 November 2009		Medium
Review of CDRP Plan		21 January 2010		Medium
Budget (date to be advised)				Medium
Youth offending team (Date to be advised)				Low
Motorbikes (Date to be advised)				Low

Dates of Future Meetings

17 September 2009
19 November 2009
21 January 2010
25 March 2010

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