

DEVELOPMENT OF ARGYLL AND BUTE COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY 2009 - 11

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this paper is to provide members of the Community Planning Partnership Management Committee with an update on progress in developing the Argyll and Bute Community Safety Strategy 2009 -11.

The paper is a synopsis of the Argyll and Bute Strategic Community Safety Assessment and sets out the priorities and aims identified from the assessment document together with the partnership delivery framework to achieve these aims. The priorities were endorsed by the Strategic Community Safety Partnership in March 2009 with agreement that partners will contribute to the completion of the Community Safety Strategy by providing additional statistical information and by identifying actions to achieve these aims.

The paper also provides information on the new Anti Social Behaviour Framework

The Community Planning Partnership Management Committee is invited to comment on the priorities and aims identified from the strategic assessment in terms of their scope and their contribution to Community Planning Partnership priorities.

The Community Planning Partnership Management Committee is invited to comment on the new Anti Social Behaviour Framework

BACKGROUND

The Scottish Government recommends that Local Authorities and Community Safety Partners undertake a Strategic Community Safety Assessment to inform priorities and decisions in the provision of community safety. The introduction of Strategic Assessments is intended to move partnerships to a more intelligence led problem solving and planning approach to Community Safety.

The aim of the Strategic Assessment is to identify key community safety issues and priorities through analysis of information provided by partner agencies. This includes:

- analysis of the levels and patterns of crime and disorder across Argyll and Bute
- comparative analysis of the levels and patterns of crime and disorder between the four distinct geographical areas of Argyll and Bute
- service plans of partners involved in addressing community safety concerns in Argyll and Bute

- surveys of public perception in relation to community safety

Action by the Community Safety Partnership contributes to the Scottish Government national objective of a Safer and Stronger Scotland and achievement of:

National Outcome 9 - We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger

National Outcome 11 - We have strong, resilient and supportive communities where people take responsibility for their own actions and how they affect others

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The following Community Safety priorities and planned outcomes have been identified as a result of the strategic assessment, consultation with partner services and evaluation of the Community Safety strategy 2006 -2009.

Priority 1

Ensure Neighbourhoods and Towns are Safe

Aims

- Reduce Anti Social Behaviour and Disorder
- Reduce violence and domestic violence
- Reduce fear of Anti Social Behaviour and Disorder in all areas of the authority and among vulnerable groups
- Prevent and divert young people from engaging in anti social and offending behaviour
- Prevent hate crime

How We Will Do This

- High profile policing of neighbourhoods and towns to tackle anti social behaviour, alcohol related disorder and violence
- Problem solving and intelligence sharing by partners to identify hotspots and implement PIER responses
- CCTV surveillance within towns and in hotspot areas
- Enforcing Public Drinking Byelaws
- Tackling the sale and supply of alcohol to minors
- Tackling substance misuse
- Supporting Youth Forums
- Maximising the use of funds and resources from the CashBack for Communities Initiative to provide sport, leisure and cultural activities for young people
- Promoting equality and value of diversity and recording and monitoring of hate crimes

Priority 2

Tackle Vandalism and Criminal Damage within Communities and Towns

Aims

- Reduce vandalism and criminal damage within public spaces

How We Will Do This

- Problem solving and intelligence sharing by partners to identify hotspots and implement PIER responses

Priority 3

Promote Road Safety and Safe Driving

Aims

- Raise and maintain public awareness of road safety issues
- Maximise the effectiveness of local and national initiatives by coordinating road safety activity

How We Will Do This

- Enforcing traffic legislation
- Applying Traffic Management Technology -Automatic Number Plate Recognition, Speed Cameras
- Maintaining and developing a safe road network-road safety engineering
- Continuing to educate children and young people about road safety
- Continuing to implement road safety initiatives for all road users

Priority 4

Ensure the environment is respected and valued

Aims

- Maintaining attractive neighbourhoods and towns via a proactive and locality based approach to environmental concerns
- Developing positive public perceptions of the maintenance of towns and neighbourhoods

How We Will Do This

- Fixed Penalty enforcement action taken against perpetrators of fly tipping, dog fouling, littering.
- Initiatives to engage young people and residents in support of environmental matters – Junior Wardens Initiative, Community Enhancement Initiative
- Apply provisions of the Anti Social Behaviour Act (2004) in respect of noise nuisance behaviour

Priority 5

Provide Reassurance to the Public and Engage Residents in Developing Safe Neighbourhoods

Aims

- Reduce the fear of crime
- Empower people to make choices which contribute to their personal safety and to safety within their home and community

How We Will Do This

- Continuing to provide personal and home safety and security advice to **vulnerable residents**
- Continuing to provide Community Safety Initiatives-experiential learning in schools, home fire safety visits

DELIVERY FRAMEWORK

Argyll and Bute Community Safety Partners have developed a partnership problem solving approach to community safety matters based upon the National Intelligence Model (NIM).

The Council, Strathclyde Police and partners developed an intelligence based problem solving approach in relation to the delivery of the Argyll and Bute Anti Social Behaviour Strategy 2005 -08. Responses to anti social behaviour incidents and hotspots have been based around a balanced use of Prevention, Intervention and Enforcement responses (PIER).

The Strategic Community Safety Partnership is the key forum that will strategically direct the implementation of the Community Safety Strategy. The locality based Community Safety Partnerships in Mid Argyll Kintyre and Islay; Bute and Cowal; Oban, Lorn & the Isles and Helensburgh and Lomond are responsible for delivering the strategy at area level and contributing to monitoring of outcomes and reporting to the Strategic Partnership.

The locality based Community Safety Partnerships also have a key role in supporting a methodology which promotes an evidence based approach to identifying and addressing community safety priorities.

TIMETABLE FOR COMPLETION OF COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY

Area Strategic Assessments completed and approved by Area Community Safety Partnerships in Bute, Cowal and Helensburgh and Lomond areas - **Jan to March 2009**

Area Strategic Assessments to be completed for Oban ,Lorn and the Isles and Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands - **June/July 2009**

Argyll and Bute draft Strategic Assessment completed and approved by Strategic Community Safety Partnership - **March 2009**.

Working group of Strategic Community Safety Partnership to contribute to the completion of the Community Safety Strategy by providing additional statistical information and by identifying actions to achieve aims - **June/July 2009**

Submission of Argyll and Bute Community Safety Strategy to Strategic Community Safety Partnership - **September 2009**

NEW ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR FRAMEWORK

A new framework for tackling Anti Social Behaviour was launched by the Scottish Government in March 2009. This was a result of an SNP 2007 Manifesto commitment to review the system for tackling ASB in Scotland and for communities to have more say in the process. The review commenced on 25 October 2007 and the publication of the framework marks the end of the review process.

Framework - Key Elements

- Aim of framework is to promote positive outcomes and spread existing good practice across Scotland
- Tackling ASB contributes directly to the Government's single unifying purpose of creating a flourishing, successful Scotland (underpinned by 'Safer and Stronger' strategic objective and National Outcome 9 'We live our lives safe from crime, disorder and danger')
- No repeal of the 2004 Act or any of the legal measures it provides
- Smarter working to address the causes and not just the symptoms with focus on prevention rather than crisis management
- Important that communities are meaningfully engaged in the process
- Four pillars to the framework – prevention, integration, engagement and communication
- Full implementation plan to be published in summer 2009 – 50 commitments and recommendations (25 for national partners and 25 for local agencies)

Main themes

- Prevention before ASB occurs – address causes e.g. drink, drugs, deprivation
- Resolving ASB effectively at an early stage
- Community engagement – involvement in solutions and regular dialogue
- Communicating positive messages and promote positive behaviour – role models, mentors etc
- Integrating services – sharing info, resources, interagency problem solving, evidence based reporting
- Support and information to victims and use of restorative practices where appropriate

Four Pillars of the Framework

Prevention – Integration – Engagement – Communication

Prevention

- Greater focus politically, strategically and operationally on prevention and early intervention

- Improving access to education, employment, training, sport, cultural activities
- Enforcement action must be appropriate, proportionate and timely and introduced in tandem with support measures tailored to needs of individuals and communities

Integration

- Effective information sharing and intelligence led interventions
- Shared commitment and outcomes across services

Engagement

- Community involvement in planning process and identification of local priorities
- Opportunities to participate in the local decision making (young people, victims, offenders and others)
- Community participation, mediation and reassurance activities

Communication

- Communication of the issues to create understanding and reduce fear of crime and disorder
- Encourage balanced and evidence based reporting on ASB

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