

REPORT FROM: NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES MANAGER

TO: EXECUTIVE

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FOR INFORMATION

THEMATIC GROUPS ANNUAL REPORT

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide an update on progress of the Sustainable Communities Strategy Thematic Groups – June 2014 September – July 2015 and note barriers to delivery.

Background

1. The Executive agreed on May 16th 2013 to dismantle the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) structure. It was agreed then that main theme groups which delivered the Pendle Sustainable Communities Strategy, together with the new Health and Wellbeing Group, should continue and report progress to the Executive group of the Council. This report will summarise progress since the last report in June 2014.

Community Safety Partnership

Crime in Pendle

2. At the end of March 2015 overall crime in Pendle was down by 7.9% (number = 447). A stable /downward trend has been evident over the last two years. A surge in March of dwelling burglaries (number 48 the highest monthly total for three years) made the final year end figure to be 7.9% (26 more crimes) up on the previous year.
3. Personal robbery reduced from 37 crimes down to 20 crimes (- 45%). There was a reduction in domestic abuse crime down 12. % (n=66) and domestic assaults increased very slightly. Other crimes of violence (Against the Person) hardly moved (5 extra crimes) whereas Pan Lancs saw a 5% increase and the East Area recorded a rise of 8.2%. Within that figure however alcohol related violent crime rose 20 % (n=49) across the district with a spike during July and August which is expected to occur again this year.

4. Anti Social Behaviour recorded by the Police reduced again by 10.3% (n=497 incidents) continuing a trend established over a number of years since 2006/7. Pendle still remains one of the areas in Lancashire where child casualties are the highest – often involving child pedestrians running in front of an oncoming vehicle.
5. Headlines in the year to date up to June 2015 show an increase in car related offences - vehicle taking up from 10 to 31 and theft from a vehicle up from 65 to 79 (some specific locations are being targeted and Police attention is being focused to catch the thieves) . Burglary of dwellings slightly down (n=3).
6. Alcohol related crimes were up in May and the trend is upwards. Both domestic abuse and domestic assaults have fallen dramatically since January 2015. Comparing April and May 2015 to the same months last year the number of domestic abuse crimes have decreased by 38% (n=37).).However there are indications from DV practitioners that their referrals are up and some cases are by passing police recording.

Progress – Strategic Delivery

7. The community safety priorities remain largely unchanged from 2013/14 and include:
 1. Reducing Violent Crime – including child sexual exploitation
 2. Reducing the impact of substance misuse
 3. Reducing the harm caused by ASB
 4. Improving Road Safety
 5. Tackling Domestic Abuse.
8. A new three year strategic plan will be put in place from 2016 onwards and we are currently involved in the process of developing the Annual Strategic Assessment with the County's seconded police analyst team.
9. As suggested in the last report the Burnley Pendle Rossendale Community Safety Group has been replaced by Pennine Lancashire Community Safety Steering group which includes Pendle, Blackburn with Darwen, Burnley, Hyndburn, Rossendale and Ribble Valley Councils, LCC plus key health representatives (2 CCGs), Fire and Rescue Services. The aim of the group is to coordinate action across the wider footprint to tackle shared priorities and act collaboratively to attract resources to address East Lancashire issues. Three key thematic streams have been identified for 2015-16 and action plans established :
 1. East Lancs Domestic Violence Strategy
 2. Road Casualty Reduction Partnership
 3. Reducing Offending
10. These will complement and enhance local delivery. An officer tactical group provides support for the Partnership to which Pendle contributes. It has successfully attracted substantial funding through the Transforming Change Agenda for work with Organised Crime Groups (£995000) across Lancashire which will include parts of Pendle. In addition further funding from the Home Office Innovation Fund (£2.5m) will help build a new central CCTV hub in Blackburn with the aim of providing a cheaper monitoring facility for all CCTV systems in East Lancashire. Pendle are a signatory to the bid and once the future of CCTV in Pendle is resolved we will have use the centre from 2016 as the Burnley control room amalgamates with the new hub.

Local Delivery and strategic coordination

11. Pendle has retained its statutory Community Safety Partnership (Executive decision March 2015) and continues to meet at bi monthly intervals to deliver our action plan, and respond to emerging issues / crimes. The Area Working Groups continue to provide an opportunity for local problems to be identified and tackled, endorsing PACT arrangements. Nelson Town Council has incorporated the Nelson Working Group into its Agenda and this is working well.
12. Recently there has been a lot of focus on the new powers attributed to the Local Authority by the Anti Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2014. The powers allow us to do things we were unable to do before and we are currently implementing Community Protection Notices in a number of cases to tackle ASB. We are also exploring the use of Public Space Protection Orders to control dog owners. Mediation and preventative action continues as key approaches. Some examples of work undertaken over the last 12 months:
13. Supported a further 70 victims out of the harm caused by ASB through the Anti Social Behaviour Risk Assessment Conference (395 in total since 2011)
14. Continued to provide the Target Hardening service to prevent burglary revictimisation
15. Supported Pendle Domestic Violence Initiative including funding for their Sanctuary scheme to protect the homes of DV victims
16. Supported Lancs Fire and Rescue emergency advice scheme in rural areas
17. Worked with Inspire to extend services on substance misuse with an emphasis on alcohol
18. Established a joint contract with Burnley and Rossendale BC to extend the SMILE Mediation contract with excellent outcomes on both initial assessment and full mediation.
19. Funded the Borough wide parent survey to support the work to prevent Child Sexual Exploitation.

Challenges

20. Planned reductions to Police budgets and changes to neighbourhood policing will impact locally.
 1. The loss of our co- located Police ASB casework officer has had a major impact on our capacity. Police have responded to concerns expressed by members by agreeing to a placement of a Police Officer from the Early Action Team to support ASB work in Pendle .
 2. The future of CCTV funding and how services could be supported in the light of budget pressure.
 3. Revitalising partners to continue to support local problem solving through the Pendle Community Safety Partnership

Pendle Children's Trust Burnley and Pendle Children's Partnership Board

Progress

21. Since the last update, the twelve District Children and Young People's Trust Boards and the three Locality Safeguarding Groups have been disestablished. There are now five Children's Partnership Boards operating across Lancashire and no Locality Safeguarding Groups. Pendle's Children and Young People's Trust Board no longer exists and is now replaced by the Burnley and Pendle Children's Partnership Board. The Board last met on 9th June.
22. The two districts have brought together their key priorities into a joint action plan (attached) and have brought together good practice via the sub-groups:
 1. Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) – awareness;
 2. Family Learning
 3. Multi-Agency Safeguarding Practice Inspection (MASPI)
23. The recently established Boards are a means by which local agencies can come together to ensure effective collaboration in the development and delivery of services to children and their families. They sit underneath the County-wide Children and Young People's Trust, and are a means by which local priorities can be influenced by local people.
24. The Prevention and Early Help Panel now operates in Pendle, merging the previous Early Support and Working Together With Families structures into a strategic group.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

25. A survey has been submitted to parents in both Pendle and Burnley now (continuing the work that began by Pendle's Children's Trust). The results are being analysed and next steps being agreed by the CSE sub group.
26. The first meeting of the Burnley and Pendle CSE group met on 3rd June. The group provides a link between strategic plans and district delivery and will develop a local action plan to support the delivery of the pan-Lancashire CSE Strategy and Action Plan. All partners have been asked to provide a current position statement detailing what their organisations are delivering at a local level and to identify areas for development which can be incorporated into the local action plan.

Family Learning

27. The Family Learning Festival is a national campaign which was discussed at the last Board meeting. There is an opportunity which could be developed across Burnley and Pendle involving partners delivering family learning. It was agreed that this would potentially be a good opportunity to raise the profile of family learning and get partners to put on family related activities.

Safeguarding

Multi-Agency Safeguarding Practice Inspection (MASPI)

28. Following these inspections (back in June 2013 for Pendle and more recently for Burnley), a task and finish group has been established to look at key themes and outstanding actions. The MASPI sub group has met and is planning a Safeguarding conference, to be held in September/October time. This will address some of the recommendations and outstanding actions such as those focusing on partnership work.

Summer Fun

29. The summer fun brochure is being developed jointly across Burnley and Pendle this year and includes key activities available over the summer, provided by key local agencies. The brochures will be delivered to schools by the second week in July and the information will be available online.

Health and Well Being Group

30. Pendle's Health and Wellbeing Group aims to support and advance, through collaborative working, improved health outcomes within Pendle, with an emphasis on reducing health inequalities. Since its inception in 2013, the group has developed and monitored Pendle's Public Health Work plan, which captures a number of Pendle's public health priorities all of which were identified by the group.

31. Over the last 2 years, this group along with the wider redesign of public health at county level, has enabled significant progress to be made locally in a number of areas, including:

1. Influencing commissioners (piloting a new approach to leisure provision through Up & Active, addressing genetic conditions related to infant mortality)
2. Drawing down additional funding (capital funding to address affordable warmth)
3. Delivering 'value added' initiatives (Parkrun, the roll out of Dementia Friends).

32. In 2014/15, over £100,000 additional funding was secured for Pendle public health initiatives, clearly demonstrating the value of this partnership approach:

- £75,000 for the Up & Active initiative
- £52,000 for Affordable Warmth programme
- £3,000 for Parkrun

33. Pendle's Health & Wellbeing Group, formerly chaired by Dianne Gardner, Specialist in Public Health, can no longer be supported to the same extent by LCC. Thus alternative arrangements are now being considered to allow us to retain a local presence around health and wellbeing and enable us to continue influencing the wider health structures and processes. We will co-ordinate and Chair the group (Cllr Whalley) with the first meeting in the new format arranged for 22nd July.

The Integrated Wellbeing Service

34. Members are asked to note the imminent changes to Help Direct. Lancashire County Council is developing a new Integrated Wellbeing Service which will replace Help Direct. From 1 September 2015 Help Direct will not exist but will be replaced by what is being called an Integrated Wellbeing Service, part of which will be provided in-house by Lancashire County Council's telephone line, and part of which will be provided by a commissioned Wellbeing Worker Service.

35. The new provider consortium for Lancashire's Wellbeing Worker Service is made up of NCompass, Age UK Central Lancashire and Richmond Fellowship. They will collectively deliver from 1 September 2015 the face to face service which will mainly be accessed via referrals from primary care and other partners and will focus on supporting vulnerable adults at risk of a health or social care crisis.

36. Over the coming months Help Direct will be winding down its large scale promotional activity due to the changes but will still be providing a service until the new contract is in place. Once the contract for Help Direct ends on 31 August the brand name will no longer exist and all materials, shop branding etc. will be removed from circulation as far as possible. The general telephone number 0303 333 11 11 will remain and calls will be picked up by Lancashire County Council as they currently are now.
37. We need to consider the potential impacts this new service could have on Pendle. For example, there are aspects of the current Help Direct service which may be lost under the new arrangements, such as the hospital discharge project currently operating in Burnley General, Blackburn Royal and Pendle Community hospitals. This project offers face to face support, advice and guidance for hospital patients being discharged, addressing many of the underlying low level health issues that could help avoid future readmissions. LCC commissioners have been informed of such concerns.

Better Care Fund (BCF)- Introduction

38. The Better Care Fund is about improving the quality of health and social care available to the public. It is about moving away from a 'sickness service', and towards one that enables people to live independent and healthy lives in the community for as long as possible by joining up services around the individual person and their individual needs. It creates a local single pooled budget to incentivise the NHS and local government to work more closely together around planning and delivering health and social care services.
39. Lancashire's BCF intends to deliver integrated health and social care systems to reduce the demand on acute hospital and care home provision in favour of a sustainable integrated neighbourhood health and social care system. Lancashire's Better Care Fund (BCF) submission has now been approved and work is underway in both LCC and the 6 CCG's to implement this new arrangement.
40. LCC will act as the host for the pooled fund arrangement with governance arrangements for the Better Care Fund now being developed by the BCF steering group on behalf of the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB).
41. There are 21 individual schemes to be commissioned through Lancashire's BCF, some of which will have implications on us as a district, such as Disabled Facilities Grant and Integrated Neighbourhood Teams. We are currently in discussions with LCC and other districts to clarify the extent of our involvement in this programme.

Current barriers to delivery

42. Although we have received Lancashire Public Health funding to support implementation of our Public Health Action Plan during the reporting period, the funding remains non-recurrent and uncertainties remain over how interventions can be mainstreamed in the longer term.
43. We are mindful of the impending cuts planned for public health and the potential consequences this could have on Pendle's public health programmes 2015/16.
44. We need to consider the changes to the Wellbeing Service and any potential gaps resulting from the new contract. Wherever possible, we need to influence commissioners to explore to what extent any potential gaps could be met through other commissioning arrangements, such as BCF.

Vision Board

Progress

45. The Vision Board continues to act as an ambassador and lobbying body for enterprise in the Borough. This year saw the Board expanding to include growing and younger businesses. The Vision Board meetings give an opportunity for Members to discuss business conditions and there have been a number of positive messages about trade from a range of businesses, particularly manufacturing and production. There have also been, however, some concerns about job losses in large Primes such as Rolls-Royce which could cause future issues in the local supply chain.

The Board restricts each meeting to cover a theme. The themes have included:

46. **The Growth Deal and Lancashire Enterprise Zone** – Members received a presentation from the Director of Economic Development, Lancashire County Council. Members recently heard about support available from **Regional Growth Fund 6 (RGF6)**. The RGF6 programme is to be delivered by Regenerate and the Chamber and will be called the **Lancashire Business Growth Fund**. The programme aims to accelerate business growth and investments will range from £10,000 to £1m.
47. **Skills** - The Board receives regular updates on **the Skills Agenda** and apprenticeships from the College and Training 2000. The Board received a presentation from **Job Centre Plus** about support available to businesses taking on unemployed staff. In September, Board Members were asked to take part in an online **Skills Survey** produced by the Council which asked Members to identify skills issues including long term and short term shortages and recruitment issues. Around 70% of Members who responded said they have short term skills shortages and the majority of these shortages fall within the 'higher skills' category indicates there is a local skills gap.
48. The introduction of **Superfast Lancashire** (broadband network) to Pendle businesses. The Vision Board successfully promoted and lobbied for broadband networks which were rolled-out in Pendle ahead of the planned schedule. To continue their lobbying of Superfast Lancashire for suitable business networks, Members were recently asked for feedback on coverage in their area. It is clear there are continuing issues with internet connections in the West Craven area therefore Superfast Lancashire and LCC will be invited to speak to Members at their next meeting to answer questions about the poor coverage.
49. The Vision Board is still working to exploit the potential of the **Burnley-Pendle Growth Corridor along the M65**, particularly the 'Pendle Gateway' section which is between Junction 12 at Brierfield and the end of the M65 at Colne. Junction improvements to Junction 12 are due to start in July, and Junction 13 improvements will begin in October.
50. The Vision Board received a presentation on the **Brierfield Mill Master plan** – now renamed **Northlight**. Vision Board Members have welcomed the significant progress made; almost £30m has been secured for the development including £7.5m from the public sector and work is expected to start on site in January 2016. The Vision Board received a presentation on the **Pendle's Growth Strategy** which concentrated on three themes; employment land, housing development and improvements to the road infrastructure.
51. The Vision Board supported the **Work Inspiration** event in February 2015. There have been three annual 1 day Pendle Work Inspiration events involving an average of 900 Year 9 students from the six Pendle Secondary schools, engaging with employers through over 20 interactive skills based activities. The annual event is jointly organised by BITC, Nelson & Colne College, Pendle Borough Council, Pendle Vision Board and STEMFirst, is designed

to give young people a better understanding of local businesses and the careers which exist within those companies and industries.

52. In addition, The Vision Board supported the **Focus on Your Business Month** in October. This is an annual, month long event which hosts workshops to support and target businesses from start-up stage right through to sector leading companies. 176 delegates attended the last event in October and all gave positive feedback. The event will be held again in Oct 2015.

53. **The 5th Pendle Business Awards** event will be held on 20th May 2016. The Vision Board hopes to continue with the high number of delegates (over 300) but also wishes to host the event within Pendle. Officers are currently investigating venue options.

54. **Current barriers to delivery**

- limited land for business growth
- shortage of high level skills
- the number of businesses linked to superfast broadband.
- poor transport networks, especially congestion at the end of the M65

IMPLICATIONS

Policy: all priority policy action areas for the Borough Council and its partners. If all 4 theme groups deliver they will make a significant contribution to the Council's overall strategic objectives.

Financial: no direct implications from this report. Each Theme group is currently attracting funding into Pendle to deliver actions or support delivery.

Legal: The groups help the Council deliver its legal responsibility

Risk Management: None

Health and Safety: None

Sustainability: the theme groups aim to produce healthy, safe, economically sustainable communities in Pendle

Community Safety: The CSP fulfils the Borough's statutory responsibility under the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act

Equality and Diversity: the theme groups operate within the Council's equality and diversity policy

APPENDICES – None

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

Pendle Community Safety Partnership Plan 2014/15

<http://www.pendle.gov.uk/partnershipworking>

Burnley and Pendle District Children's Partnership Board Plan 2015/16

<http://www.lancashirechildrenstrust.org.uk/district/index.asp?siteid=3767&pageid=12876&e=e>

Pendle's Health and Well Being Action Plan

Vision Board Strategy