

Divisions Affected - Oxfordshire

PLACE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

– 24 July 2024

Community Safety Agreement 2024

Report by Rob MacDougall Chief Fire Officer and Director of Community Safety

RECOMMENDATION

1. **The Committee is RECOMMENDED to**

Note the report

Executive Summary

2. The Community Safety Annual Report is produced by the Safer Oxfordshire Partnership (SOP), a thematic group that coordinates community safety activities and priorities across Oxfordshire. The document outlines the purpose, vision, background, and membership of the SOP, as well as the strategic framework and the principles of working together with other relevant partnerships. The agreement also presents the main findings of the Strategic Intelligence Assessment (SIA), which provides a snapshot of crime and community safety trends in Oxfordshire, and the strategic objectives of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC), which guide the allocation of funding and resources. The document then describes the priorities and achievements of the SOP in 2023/24, focusing on four areas: fighting modern slavery and serious violence, protecting vulnerable people from abuse, reducing the harm caused by alcohol and drugs misuse, and reducing the level of re/offending. It concludes with four appendices that provide more details on the PCC's strategic objectives, the resourcing of the community safety activities, the SOP membership, and the city and district community safety partnership plans.

Community Safety Annual Report (Community Safety Agreement)

3. The legislation states that an annual community safety agreement is required in two tier county areas. Such an agreement provides a summary of our achievements over the past year and sets out our joint priorities for the year ahead. It also sets out our principles for working together and provides information about the partnership works.

Safer Oxfordshire Partnership Vision

4. Working together to reduce crime and create a safer Oxfordshire.

Background

5. The Safer Oxfordshire Partnership is a thematic group in Oxfordshire that brings together community safety partners to work together to deliver on joint priorities and emerging themes. The partnership is part of a strategic framework that community safety partners are expected to put in place to improve outcomes for local people.
6. Regulation eight of The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007 sets out the community safety requirements which apply at a county-wide level. This requires that for each county area there shall be a county strategy group whose function shall be to prepare a community safety agreement and partnership plan for the county area on behalf of the responsible authorities in that county area.
7. In Oxfordshire, the Safer Oxfordshire Partnership fulfils this function through the Safer Oxfordshire Partnership Co-ordination Group which is a senior officer group that ensures the countywide statutory functions in relation to community safety in Oxfordshire are met through the coordination of action on community safety matters, directing resources to the highest priority areas and ensuring efficiency.
8. We will deliver this vision through the priorities identified in this plan that outlines our priorities for safeguarding vulnerable adults and children through supporting victims, tackling offending, and collaborating with the local community to keep themselves safe.
9. All our activity will include consideration of inclusivity and access to Oxfordshire services by minority and vulnerable groups. Oxfordshire is a low crime area, and we are committed to working together to ensure that crime levels remain low, and we continue to improve the safety of our local community.

Financial Implications

10. The report does not contain any financial implications for the council.

Comments checked by:

Stephen Rowles, Strategic Finance Business Partner,
stephen.rowles@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Legal Implications

11. Regulation eight of The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007 sets out the community safety requirements which apply at a county-wide level. This requires that for each county area there shall be a county strategy group whose function shall be to prepare a community safety agreement and partnership plan for the county area on behalf of the responsible authorities in that county area.
12. The Safer Oxfordshire Partnership is the county strategy group required by the regulations and the Community Safety Annual Report is the required safety agreement and partnership plan for the Oxfordshire County area.

Comments checked by:

Paul Grant, Head of Legal and Deputy Monitoring Officer
paul.grant@oxfordshire.gov.uk (Legal)

Equality & Inclusion Implications

13. The report is a summary of plans developed and owned by other partners and therefore does not have any direct equality or inclusion implications.
14. The report contains commitments that all activity will include consideration of inclusivity and access to Oxfordshire services by minority and vulnerable groups.

Sustainability Implications

15. The report is a summary of plans developed and owned by other partners and therefore does not have any direct sustainability implications.

Risk Management

16. The report itself is part of the risk management process across the county to ensure that community safety activity is coordinated where appropriate and that partners are working together to achieve the counties priorities.

NAME
Rob MacDougall

Annex: n/a

Background papers: Community Safety Annual Report 24/25

[Other Documents:] n/a

Contact Officer:

Karen Crossan – Oxfordshire County Council Partnerships
Manager
Karen.crossan@oxfordshire.gov.uk

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