

Name of meeting: Council

Date: October 12th 2022

Title of report: Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan 2022-2027

Purpose of report:

To provide Council with an overview of the new Communities Partnership Plan for Kirklees and the key priorities to make Kirklees safer and more cohesive.

To seek Council approval of the proposed Communities Partnership Plan and recommend it as a key policy forming a part of the Council's Policy Framework (under Article 4 of the Constitution).

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	Effects all electoral wards
Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)</u>?	Key Decision Private Report/Private Appendix – No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	No
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	Mel Meggs 05/09/2022
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?	Eamonn Croston 02/09/2022
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?	Julie Muscroft 07/09/2022
Cabinet member portfoliohttp://www.kirklees.gov.uk/you-kmc/kmc-howcouncilworks/cabinet/cabinet.asp	Councillor C. Pattison , Learning, Aspiration & Communities

Electoral wards affected: All

1. Summary

- 1.1 Section 5 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a statutory duty on named “responsible authorities” to work in partnership to reduce crime and disorder. The 1998 Act defines Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) as “*An alliance of organisations which generate strategies and policies, implement actions and interventions concerning crime and disorder within their partnership area*”.

Section 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a statutory duty on CSPs to develop and implement a strategic plan to meet priorities which addresses multi-agency issues affecting quality of life for residents. In Kirklees, this Plan is known as the **Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan**.

The 2018-2021 Communities Partnership Plan has expired, with a newly developed 5-year plan developed using insight, data and analysis from the most recent Partnership Strategic Intelligence Assessment (PSIA) and engagement with partners and stakeholders.

The Communities Partnership Plan 2022-27 was agreed by the Communities Board on 14th June 2022 and developed in consultation with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and partners.

The Council is one of the “Responsible Authorities” with a statutory duty under the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act (and subsequent legislation) to develop and deliver a Partnership Plan to make Kirklees safer.

The Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan is one of the plans / strategies that forms the Council’s Policy Framework (under Article 4 of the Constitution). Accordingly endorsement of the proposed Partnership Plan was given by cabinet on September 21st 2022 and now recommends its approval and adoption at full council .

2. Information required to take a decision

- 2.1 The 2018 – 2021 Communities Partnership Plan had four key priorities:

- Reducing crime
- Tackling Anti-Social Behaviour
- Protecting People from Serious Harm
- Improving Place

2.2 Following a review of this plan, new Strategic Intelligence Assessment and engagement with partners, the new 2022-2027 Partnership Plan as set out at appendix 1 contains the following 4 key priorities -

- **Reducing violence and tackling exploitation and abuse** which includes serious violence, violence against women and girls, modern slavery, organised crime and safe town centres
- **Reducing ASB and Neighbourhood Crime** which includes personal, nuisance and environmental ASB, vehicle crime, burglary and criminal damage
- **Building Resilient and Inclusive Communities** which includes Tackling Hate Crime, safeguarding people from radicalisation, asylum, migration and integration, inclusion and belonging
- **Reducing Risk** which includes road safety, reducing reoffending, substance misuse and water safety.

2.3 The vast majority of the priorities are evidence based using data and insight from the Partnership Strategic Intelligence Assessment (PSIA), a summary is within the Plan and the full document attached at Appendix 3. On occasion, we also address issues where it is public concern that underpins its inclusion, such as road safety, or where we identify emerging issues. The Plan’s development is also informed by engagement and tension monitoring undertaken across the partnership throughout the year.

2.4 The Partnership Plan reaffirms the Safer Kirklees approach (with its focus on prevention and early resolution of issues) and outlines the governance arrangements in place as a result of the continued development of the Communities Board.

2.5 Cross Cutting Themes The Communities Partnership Plan strategic priorities are underpinned by a number of cross cutting themes, these are:

- Victim centred
- Early intervention and prevention
- Tackle inequality and addressing inclusion
- Collaboration and partnership
- Listening to people's lived experience to better respond to community need
- Place based (for example crime profiles are different geographies and require different responses)

The Communities Board is also seeking stronger relationships with the Adults Safeguarding Board and Safeguarding Children's Partnership on shared priorities such as exploitation and violence and is also driving the Inclusive Communities Framework.

The Communities Plan is aligned with the West Yorkshire Mayors Crime Plan and the Partnership is well connected into regional structures.

The Plan covers a 5 year period and will be refreshed on an annual basis.

2.6 Costs As a Partnership Plan there are no costs requiring a specific decision. Different themes and partners involved in delivery receive funding through different sources. The Communities Board via Safer Kirklees acts as a conduit for funding from the West Yorkshire Mayors Office and the Kirklees Communities Plan is aligned to the West Yorkshire Crime Plan 2021-24. The Council acts as budget holder for the Communities Board where partnership funding is received from the West Yorkshire Mayors Office, this currently includes funding from the Violence Reduction Unit. This funding varies year on year and is also received 'in year' and is often directed towards specific priorities.

2.7 Expected impact/ outcomes The Communities Partnership Plan has a set of indicators that are reviewed quarterly that reflect the broad range of responsibilities held by the Board. Supporting the Board in undertaking its responsibilities is the Strategic Delivery Group, this is made up of the Chair or a representative of each of the sub-groups to ensure work is on track and aligned. Each strategic priority has a delivery groups with their own delivery plans and outcomes to meet – some of which include delivery against external funding. The headline indicators can be found at the back of the Plan.

2.8 Services & agencies involved The Board is Chaired by the relevant Portfolio Holder and has broad political representation as well as partners from within the Council Children's and Adults Services, Public Health, West Yorkshire Police, the NHS West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (previously CCG), Probation, West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority, Voluntary and Community Sector representatives including Victim Support as well as Adults and Children's Safeguarding Board representatives.

2.9 Implications for the Council The Council are a significant partner in the Communities Board, which is Elected Member Chaired, with the Police lead Vice Chair. The Plan ensures that we are compliant with our responsibility under Section 5 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The Communities Partnership Plan has oversight of a number of strategically important areas of work that we dedicate significant resources through Council Services, to delivering. It is important that the Council recognises its responsibilities as a key partner in the delivery of these priorities.

3 Working with People

The Communities Partnership Plan will continue to put the victims and witnesses of crime and disorder at the heart of our approach. We want to be better at capturing the lived experience of our most vulnerable residents, alongside our evidence and insight data, to inform future service delivery and ensure we are putting our resources in the right places.

We acknowledge that supporting the victims and witness of crime and disorder, including repeat victims, cuts across all aspects of any Community Safety Plan, and we will continue to work closely with colleagues in Adult and Children's safeguarding to ensure our most vulnerable individuals and communities are supported.

Our restorative approach of working 'with' local people and elected members to solve problems at the earliest possible opportunity underpins our overarching work around prevention and early intervention, building on the positives within communities.

We will be using the Inclusive Communities Framework to underpin our approach to working alongside communities to address the priorities within the four strategic priorities of Violence and Exploitation, Neighbourhood Crime, Building Resilience and Risk, underpinning the commitment to the Shaped by People outcome. Prevention remains at the heart of the partnership approach and where issues do occur, intervening and working with victims and communities at the earliest opportunity.

4 Working with Partners

The Pandemic has further embedded working practices and relationships with key partners across the system as well as improving relationships with other partners fundamental in tackling crime and disorder, such as Public Health.

The Communities Partnership Plan will continue to build upon these relationships, utilising approaches from Public Health to tackle issues around crime and disorder, for example, adopting a Public Health approach to serious violence and to substance misuse. Partnership is core to the delivery of the priorities within the plan and to work collaboratively is essential.

The Kirklees Communities Board will have greater clarity and focus on its priorities in the coming years, providing a greater platform for strategic collaboration and interconnectivity that will reduce duplication and make best use of our resources.

The cross-cutting nature of crime, disorder and community resilience means that collaboration with other Boards is essential in achieving successful outcomes. Issues such as Exploitation and Youth Violence are priorities for both the Communities Board and the Children's Partnership therefore continuing to build collaboration and identifying shared outcomes and approaches is essential to our success moving forward.

At a wider level, it is critical that there are effective relationships and strategic alignment with the priorities in the West Yorkshire Mayors Police and Crime Plan 2021-2024 and cross border working between partners to address issues.

5 Place Based Working

The Partnership, for a number of years has recognised and responded to the diverse geography of Kirklees and as such organised itself into a four-district model. This model was significant in our response to Covid19 and the development of the Covid response hubs. These hubs have increased the commitment and engagement across the partnership and will continue to evolve to support the delivery of the new Partnership Plan as our working practices adjust following our ongoing recovery from Covid19.

Our approach to tackling violence has utilised our place-based approach, using data and intelligence to highlight key areas for engagement and activity. Through the development and delivery of local action plans, areas will see enhanced service delivery to tackle the current issue and to prevent future issues. Our response to challenges in neighbourhoods is now focused and coordinated at a place level, including the Place Based Domestic Abuse work that is underway.

We will review crime and tailor our local response recognising different areas and communities may experience different crime types, this is to be central to our neighbourhood crime theme.

6 Climate Change and Air Quality

Tackling the climate emergency, reducing emissions and improving air quality are key long-term priorities for the Council to improve the quality of life for our residents and create a borough that is healthier, more sustainable and fairer for everyone.

As part of our commitment to climate change and air quality Safer Kirklees continue to use electric vehicles which enables our Community and Environmental Support Officers to travel across the district in an environmentally friendly way.

Covid19 has changed the way in which the partnership meets operationally and strategically with virtual meetings reducing travel across Kirklees and West Yorkshire, much of this has been retained.

Virtual working has resulted in a significant decrease in the use of paper and reduced environmental impact of travel for partnership meetings with most if not all meetings being paper free. The Partnership does however still acknowledge the need and benefit of meeting face to face, especially with local communities, residents and the most vulnerable and continues to increase its visibility post restrictions to a pre pandemic level. Safer Kirklees staff remained on the front line with communities throughout.

We do not anticipate any significant change as a result of the new Plan

7 Improving outcomes for children

The Partnership Plan works on the principle that the best way to tackle community safety issues is to address them at the earliest opportunity – ideally by preventing them in the first place. The Plan recognises that children and young people are similarly at risk of experiencing community safety issues - therefore it is critical that risks are reduced, and protective (including family / community strengths/assets) factors are harnessed to deliver better and more sustained outcomes.

The strategic themes within the Partnership Plan all have an impact upon children and young people who are a part of our communities in Kirklees. We have made significant investment in children and young people in our approach to Domestic Abuse and our work to reduce violence in under 25s in partnership with the West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit, which should reduce the numbers of young people becoming involved in/or being the victim of serious crime.

The Partnership are engaging in new and emerging issues such as water safety where we will look to reduce this risk at the earliest opportunity through education, prevention and early intervention. Each of our strategic priorities has a focus on prevention which can involve work with children and young people and effective working with the Kirklees Safeguarding Children's Partnership.

8 Financial Implications for the people living or working in Kirklees

The Communities Plan enables a partnership approach to a wide range of issues. The current cost of living and wider financial pressures on people locally and nationally impact on many of the priority areas including crime, domestic abuse, reoffending, exploitation and more broadly on peoples; resilience and wellbeing.

The Kirklees Communities Partnership Plan has prevention and early help at its heart and ensuring people can access services, get the help they need and build local connections and resilience in neighbourhoods will contribute to the wider financial challenges that communities face currently.

Alongside our commitment to intervene early and work in a trauma informed way, is our commitment to tackle crime and anti-social behaviour where this manifests, and during period of financial hardship acquisitive crime, amongst other crime types, can go up. Our new theme group focusing on Neighbourhood Crime brings the Police and partners together to ensure we can address this in a coordinated and timely way.

9 Legal/Financial or Human Resources

The Partnership is required under Section 6 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and the Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) regulations 2007 (as amended) to prepare an annual PSIA (regs 5-7) and annually prepare and implement a Community Safety Plan (regs 10-11) . For the purposes of preparing the PSIA and implementing the Community safety Plan, the strategy group are required to carry out community engagement under regs 12-13

The adoption of a new Communities Partnership Plan as part of the Council's Policy framework under Article 4 of the Constitution and schedule 3 to the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 is a decision for full council.

Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the Council (as a public authority) has a duty to have 'due regard' to the need to: - eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act, - advance equality of opportunity between persons with a protected characteristic and those without - foster good relations between persons with protected characteristics and those without.

The 'protected characteristics' are age, race, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

An Integrated Impact Assessment (IAA), has been carried out and is attached at appendix 2 and indicates that there should be a positive impact on communities including people as having a protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010. The Plan is committed to tackling inequality as a cross cutting theme and leads a number of workstreams whose focus is to foster good relations and eliminate harassment and victimisation. The impact on the environment is assessed as neutral.

The partnership will be required to prepare and implement a strategy to tackle serious violence with the introduction of a new statutory duty expected in 2023, currently progressing through parliament. The requirements at a local level will become clear over the coming months and the Council, on behalf of the Communities Board, are working with the West Yorkshire Mayors Office to ensure an appropriate response. Currently, it is expected that the Communities Board will be required to produce a strategy document setting out our approach to serious violence, though a West Yorkshire strategy is also being developed.

The Legal challenges and demands associated with tackling our most prolific offenders and offences continues to be time consuming and costly.

The Partnership has oversight of a range of activities where the Council or its partners have a Statutory Duty, for example Prevent, Modern Slavery and Domestic Abuse.

10 Consultees and their opinions

- 10.1 The Plan is primarily intelligence and insight led and is high level. Many of the strategic priority areas have effective service user engagement as part of their planning and delivery and the Board have committed to all new strategies and plans involving local people with lived experience of the issues.
- 10.2 The Plan is a Partnership Plan and members of the Communities Board, including Elected Members on the Board, and its sub-groups have been fully engaged in its development and consulted on the final version. This includes the Police, Health colleagues, Fire and Probation Services and the wider partnerships engaged in the Board structures. We have also attended a variety of Partnership Forums including the Youth Development Board, Adults Safeguarding Strategic Delivery Group and Children's Safeguarding Executive for views, as well as Portfolio Briefings with Adults, Children's and Resources Portfolio Holders. We have also offered to attend Political Group meetings.

Feedback ensured neighbourhood crime by place, water safety and violence against women and girls were highlighted in the Plan. We have also identified the need to strengthen the voice of

children and young people, and this will be built into the refresh and into identified themes of interest to young people.

- 10.3 The West Yorkshire Mayors Office have given views via the Violence Reduction Unit and feel it is well aligned with the region's priorities.
- 10.4 Elected Members were made aware of the development of the new plan in October – December 2021 via Safer Kirklees briefings and again in March at Neighbourhood Policing Team briefings, which included an on-line survey asking for the views from all ward Councillors. This has been followed up in further ward briefing sessions with elected members in July and August 2022 and emerging themes for the Plan were discussed with the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee in November 2021 and again in June 2022.
- 10.5 Feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee in June 2022 on the new format was positive, that it was easy to read and accessible. Further comments were as follows:

- Road Safety was emphasised as a community priority, with a view that it should be given a higher priority.

The Road Safety workstream sits within the Risk strategic priority and is within the plan as a result of recognised community concern, but without the data to underpin its inclusion as with other priority areas. In response to the comments at Scrutiny the language has been strengthened and updated to reflect concerns around speeding. Road Safety currently sits at the same priority level in the Plan as Domestic Abuse, violence, and substance misuse and this has not changed as there is not a level of priority within the Plan above where it currently sits. Additional feedback regarding community speed-watch has been highlighted to the Road Safety Partnership and the Communities Board have identified Road Safety as a priority for its next meeting. The Communities Board agrees that Road Safety is one of their key priorities and the next Board meeting has this as its key focus.

- Ensuring Councillors were at the heart of the development of the Plan.

We fully expect to work closely with Elected Members in the delivery of the Plan whilst reviewing how we engage with members strategically in the annual refresh and beyond. It has been agreed with the Chair of Scrutiny that we will offer attendance at Group Meetings at an early stage to share the data and insight that underpins the priorities and enable a strategic conversation.

To supplement this ward member engagement described at point 12.4, an offer was made to provide a briefing to all political groups on the new plan during August 2022. Learning from elected member engagement will inform a new approach to further embed elected member ongoing engagement, so the views, insight and intelligence from elected members continues to inform the annual strategic impact assessment as we move forward throughout the 5 year plan period.

We will continue to provide opportunities for comment at Safer Kirklees briefings and Neighbourhood Policing Team briefings.

- The challenges of managing neighbourhood based and neighbour on neighbour disputes was highlighted.

This will be further considered as part of the ASB review which is currently underway and acknowledged as a key operational challenge. This area was previously identified in the plan and remains within the body of the document as an important area of business.

- More information on progress and positive action was requested.

This report recommends that in addition to quarterly performance reports to the Communities Board, that an annual report on progress is produced and published in response to Scrutiny's comment. This will align with the annual refresh of the SIA.

10.6 The Plan has also been discussed at Leadership Management Team (LMT) on 20th June 2022 and an Integrated Equality Assessment has been undertaken and attached at appendix 2.

11 Next steps and timelines

- The Plan was approved by Cabinet September 21st 2022, and as an article 4 document, the Plan has progressed to Council for adoption.
- The Communities Board will meet quarterly to review progress.
- There will be an annual review of the Plan by Communities Board in response to a refresh of the Strategic Intelligence Assessment each year after approval at Council.

12 Officer recommendations and reasons

12.1 It is recommended that Council adopt the proposed Communities Partnership Plan 2022-27 containing new priorities attached at appendix 1.

12.3 Reasons: The Communities Partnership Plan 2022-27 discharges the Council's statutory duty under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and regulations thereunder to carry out a PSIA and produce a community safety plan. The council's current plan expired 31 March 2021.

13 Cabinet Portfolio Holder's recommendations

I welcome the newly developed 5-year Communities Partnership Plan, which has been effectively developed in partnership to ensure strategic buy in and implementation with partners and stakeholders.

The priorities set out in the plan are evidence based and responsive; this built-in ability to address issues of public concern and emerging issues is particularly welcomed and an approach strongly endorsed by partners that will only benefit residents and communities.

I therefore recommend that Full Council adopt the proposals as outlined in the above report.

14 Contact officer

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15 Background Papers and History of Decisions

The previous Communities Plan and PSIA can be found on the Council's website here

[Safer Kirklees | Kirklees Council](#)

Scrutiny reports and minutes can be found on the Council's website here

<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=135>

Hard copies can be requested from [Communities@ Kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:Communities@Kirklees.gov.uk)

16 Service Director responsible

Jill Greenfield, Service Director for Communities and Access

17 Appendices

- (1) The Kirklees Communities Plan 2022-2027 (unformatted version)
- (2) Integrated Equality Assessment
- (3) Strategic Intelligence Assessment