



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SERVICES, REGENERATION AND E- GOVERNMENT CABINET MEMBER MEETING 10 JANUARY 2006

Report of the Community Regeneration Commission

Safer Neighbourhood Policing Boundaries

RECOMMENDATION

1 *On the basis:*

a) i) that the proposed boundaries are not irreversible and a) ii) that the Police are amenable to future boundary revisions

- in light of experience and stakeholder views and
- with particular account being given to any future representations from the City Council,

b) that the restructuring has the purpose of i) reducing crime and ii) improving the community's perception of safety on the streets, and

c) the Commission is provided with periodic updates, including the possible impacts on the policing of Derby consequential on the proposed mergers of police forces,

that Council Cabinet support the proposed boundaries.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

2 The Commission understood that the time frame to make representations was tight as Derbyshire Constabulary were wishing to finalise the boundaries. This prevented the Commission from taking a more deliberative approach to the still-developing proposals. There was no current of opinion within the Commission opposed to the boundaries and, on the basis that the boundaries would not be permanently cast in stone, the Commission was supportive with the caveats shown.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 Cllr Bayliss, Council Cabinet Member for Community Services, Regeneration, Equalities and E-Government, had asked the Community Regeneration Commission to consider and comment on the Derbyshire Constabulary's proposals for Safer Neighbourhood Policing Boundaries. Although he could have responded to the consultation using delegated powers he had wished to receive the Commission's views.

- 3.2 The exact Police proposals were still being worked on. Draft 3 was displayed on the meeting room wall, with four alterations marked to show the differences from the earlier version provided to Members ahead of the meeting. A report from Cllr Bayliss was tabled. It explained that Neighbourhood Policing was launched by the Home Office in 2004 and represented a shift to a more pro-active, problem-solving style of policing. This noted that whilst the Police had wanted to match their neighbourhood boundaries to those of the five Area Panels, there were difficulties getting an exact match with wards. The map showed 18 teams were proposed for the Derby City Basic Command Unit, co-terminus with the Council boundary.

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Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 to this covering report – Implications

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. None directly arising. The closer that administrative boundaries are to achieving co-terminosity, the greater the opportunity to minimise inter-agency transaction costs and to contribute to Gershon efficiency savings.

Legal

- 2 Under section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, each authority must exercise all its various functions in ways that help to prevent crime and disorder in its area. Therefore the configuration of policing structures can be an opportunity to maximise collaboration with local authority services so to improve safety in the public domain.

Personnel

- 3 None directly arising.

Equalities impact

- 4 Nationally, subject to deployment decisions by individual Chief Constables, neighbourhood policing can enhance community safety in the higher crime/more disadvantaged communities. Locally the potential gain may be less because Derbyshire Constabulary is already committed to community beat policing, deploying 158 beat officers across the county since 2001 with the aim of having at least one police officer permanently deployed to every beat across the county.

Corporate Objectives, Values and Priorities

- 5.1 This report relates to the Council's **objectives** of promoting healthy, safe and independent communities *and* a shared commitment to regenerating our communities.
- 5.2 The issue impacts on the Council **priority** to minimise increases in Council Tax and increasing value for money from our services.
- 5.3 The issue connects with our **values** of developing partnerships with all stakeholders, especially Derby's residents *and* to adopt new ways of working wherever these will help us to do things better and provide value for money, customer focussed services.