



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

**COUNCIL CABINET**  
**16 MARCH 2010**

**ITEM 9**

Report of the Corporate Director of  
Regeneration and Community

## **Review of Derby Community Safety Partnership and Neighbourhood Management Arrangements**

### **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 During the last few months, reviews have been undertaken of some of the Council's principal partnership arrangements including Derby Community Safety Partnership and the allied arrangements for neighbourhood management in Derby, and Derby City Partnership, the Council's Local Strategic Partnership. These have taken place alongside the Council's own organisational review to ensure that partnership arrangements continue to be fit for purpose and sit appropriately within the new Council organisational structure.
- 1.2 The reviews of the Community Safety Partnership and Neighbourhood Management have been the subject of consultation with key partners who broadly support the preferred options subject to their continued involvement in policy and operational development of these key services. Partners considered all options including:
  - Disband the CSP
  - Transfer some services out of CSP
  - Retain the CSP as it is now but with improvements to governance and accountability and improved efficiency services
  - Improve, develop and grow the CSP.
- 1.3 The key findings of the review are included under Supporting Information and a full copy of the review reports can be found on CMIS.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Council are asked to support the following recommendations:**

- 2.1 As considered in the accompanying review of neighbourhood management, it is recommended that the neighbourhood unit is transferred into the Council's new Neighbourhoods Directorate
- 2.2 All other CSP services would be retained and managed by CSP
- 2.3 Opportunities should be considered as they emerge to enhance the range of CSP services where there are clear benefits to be gained from synergies with existing joint services

- 2.4 The CSP Director will continue to take direction from the Partnership Board but for line management purposes will report to the City Council Chief Executive and sit on his management team (currently this is at Director level)
- 2.5 Re-branding options should be developed which clearly show the CSPs connectivity to its accountable body partners
- 2.6 Reporting arrangements into key partner agencies will be reviewed and developed to partners' satisfaction. In the case of the Council, CSP now reports to the Crime and Disorder Committee of the Scrutiny Management Committee
- 2.7 Below full board level, the CSP will establish formal service agreements with its accountable body partners and meet at least bi-annually to set and review those arrangements
- 2.8 Joint meetings between CSP and accountable body partners should be held quarterly to prepare and monitor budgets and review joint objectives
- 2.9 Further efficiencies in "support services" should be explored in a 'DECATS' style review to consider whether integrating CSP support with the Council (or another partner agency) services would yield savings
- 2.10 Recruitment to the permanent post of CSP Director should begin as soon as possible.

### **Neighbourhood Management**

- 2.11 To relocate the Neighbourhoods Unit into the City Council's new Neighbourhood Directorate.
- 2.12 To continue to engage partners fully in the development and implementation of Neighbourhood policies and plans.
- 2.13 To retain the inter-agency neighbourhood teams as currently developed and seek to strengthen these where appropriate to incorporate other services where joint working would be beneficial.
- 2.14 To retain and strengthen the role of the 'Stronger' Strategy group of the Safer, Stronger and Cleaner Communities Executive of Derby City Partnership as a partnership advisory body to give direction to neighbourhood working, to the key partner agencies involved, and to the partnership neighbourhood teams.
- 2.15 To develop a programme of work to take forward recommendations for operational improvement and development summarised in 4.11.

<h2><b>REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION</b></h2>
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### **Derby Community Safety Partnership**

- 3.1 Transferring neighbourhood management to the new Neighbourhoods Directorate will demonstrate full Council commitment and democratic accountability.
- 3.2 The CSP has a strong track record of success in integrating common 'safety' agendas

within a single partnership organisation and this should be valued and built on.

- 3.3 Improvements to governance, accountability and efficiency will help to secure the full support of partners and lead to further strong performance.

### **Neighbourhood Management**

- 3.4 To give clearer Council commitment, direction and democratic accountability to neighbourhood management.
- 3.5 To fully integrate neighbourhood management arrangements into the Council's new Neighbourhoods Directorate.
- 3.6 To reinforce the core nature of neighbourhood management to all Council services.

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

### **Derby Community Safety Partnership**

- 4.1 The Community Safety Partnership has been undertaken with the close involvement of its Director and in consultation with partners.
- 4.2 Derby CSP was formed in 2003 and brought together the five partnerships already established as a result of the 1988 Crime and Disorder Act. These are the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, the Youth Offending Service, the Drug and Alcohol Team, the Domestic Violence Partnership and the Anti-social Behaviour Unit. The CSP subsequently also took responsibility for implementing new neighbourhood working arrangements, leadership of the Community Cohesion and Preventing Violent Extremities agendas and for commissioning of alcohol services on behalf of NHS Derby City. The bringing together of these agendas under a single partnership has been an innovative and successful approach.
- 4.3 The review of the CSP has considered the relevant statutory framework and guidance, has looked at the existing governance and constitutional status, the CSP's financial position, its performance standards and its key priorities during 2009/10 and going forward into 2010/11.
- 4.4 Four options for change have been considered including:
- Disband the CSP
  - Transfer some services out of CSP
  - Retain the CSP as it is now but with improvements to governance and accountability and improved efficiency services
  - Improve, develop and grow the CSP
- 4.5 The preferred option which is recommended to Cabinet involves changes which would:

- Transfer neighbourhood management to the Council's new Neighbourhood Directorate
- Improve governance and accountability and make improved efficiency savings

4.5 The full review report can be found on CMIS

## **Neighbourhood Management**

- 4.6 Neighbourhood Management was established in 2006 following a review of the Council's Area Committee structures and the operation of the Council's Area and Neighbourhood Unit. The result was to ask the CSP to develop new, more localised, arrangements and to roll these out across the City with partnership support.
- 4.7 Since 2006, new arrangements have been implemented which have been neighbourhood forums and boards established in each of the 17 Council wards, with multi agency tasking and co-ordination and significant participation from Council departments and key public sector partners.
- 4.8 This review of neighbourhood management has looked at the current arrangements and considered:
- The outcomes from the recent de Montfort University study into Derby's neighbourhood management arrangements.
  - The current restructuring of the City Council including the establishment of a new Neighbourhood Department and Derby Streetpride
  - A clear cross-party political wish that the Council takes a firmer and more visible Leadership role in neighbourhood management.
- 4.9 The review considered three options for change
- Lead neighbourhood management from within the council
  - Establish an LSP (Derby City Partnership) led service
  - Set up joint governance arrangements between the Council and DCP
- 4.10 The preferred, and recommended, option is to transfer neighbourhood management to the Council's new Neighbourhoods Directorate whilst ensuring that partner agencies are fully involved and able to influence neighbourhood working in the future. It is considered that these new arrangements will
- Give clear direction and demonstrates accountability and demonstrates strong Council commitment.
  - Reinforce the core nature of neighbourhood management to all services
- 4.11 The review also accepts a number of operational recommendations, emerging from the De Montfort University Report, including
- Capacity building of Neighbourhood Boards
  - Developing community engagement
  - Improving public service responses to neighbourhood management
  - Efficiency savings
  - Performance management
- 4.12 The full review report can be found on CMIS.

## Consultation and Partnership

- 4.13 Both these areas of activity depend fundamentally on close working arrangements with a wide range of public and voluntary sector partners and, to a lesser extent, private sector partners. Derby City Partnership has developed a very strong partnership culture over many years and is very fortunate to have strong support from all key agencies. CSP partners have been consulted on both sets of proposals and support the recommendations. However I should stress that partners place great importance on their ability to be fully involved and to influence both policy and operational development of these service areas. The success of future service delivery will be dependant on maintaining this strong partnership ethic.
- 4.14 Partners have also asked to be kept fully appraised of the CSP's Key Performance Indicators and to ensure that there is joint planning of key targets and indicators alongside their own corporate plans. And also to be fully involved in the development of streetpride working arrangements.

### OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 These are covered with the supporting information and the full review reports on CMIS.

<b>For more information contact:</b>	Name 01332 255036 e-mail <a href="mailto:jonathan.guest@derby.gov.uk">jonathan.guest@derby.gov.uk</a>
<b>Background papers:</b>	None
<b>List of appendices:</b>	Appendix 1 – Implications

<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
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**Financial**

- 1.1 The financial sustainability of CSP services is of some concern. Whilst the Council and partner budget review processes will ensure a balanced budget for 2010/11 there is further work to do to match service costs and income in future years. Discussions with CSP partners will continue in order to achieve this.
- 1.2 The transfer of the NEAT function, which previously sat within the Neighbourhood Working structure in CSP has already been proposed and agreed to be transferred directly to Streetpride.
- 1.3 The transfer of the remaining Neighbourhood Management function from CSP will include a transfer of funding and the current service budget. This will include a realignment of Council contributions directly to the Neighbourhoods Department, and external funding from partners.

**Legal**

- 2.1 None arising from this report

**Personnel**

- 3.1 There are no immediate personnel issues arising from the proposed relocation of the Neighbourhood Management function to the Council's Neighbourhoods Directorate.

**Equalities Impact**

- 4.1 CSP and Neighbourhood Services aim to address equalities issues. There is no obvious detrimental impact on equalities arising from the recommendations

**Corporate objectives and priorities for change**

- 5.1