

REPORT TO: Safer Halton PPB
DATE: 22nd January 2008
REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director – Health & Community
SUBJECT: Community Safety – Multi-Agency Problem Solving
WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To receive the final report of the Multi-Agency Problem Solving Topic Group, and a response from the Chairs of the Safer Halton Partnership.

2.0 Recommendation: That:

- i) Members of the PPB comment on the contents of the Topic Groups final report.
- ii) Members of the PPB comment on the response from the Chairs of the Safer Halton Partnership.

3.0 Supporting Information

3.1 Members of this Board visited West Lancs. Council in October 2006 to consider their multi-agency approach to community safety and anti-social behaviour. Whilst impressed with the West Lancs. 'model' it was recognised that what worked for them may not necessarily work in Halton.

3.2 It was, however, thought that the West Lancs. approach had merit, and the Anti-Social Behaviour Topic Group was asked to consider it and its possible application in Halton. To respond to this the Topic Group co-opted representatives from the Fire Service, Housing Associations, Youth Offending Team, the Youth Service, Probation, Neighbourhood Management and Community Safety Team.

3.3 The Topic Group considered the West Lancs. approach within the Halton context. It also examined research of other models, particularly those considered to be good practise, looking at the make-up of teams, their remit and approach, location, cost, benefits. As a result it produced its final report which is attached as Appendix 1. The summary of recommendations are listed on page 3 of that report.

3.4 This report was circulated to the Chairs of the Safer Halton Partnership for comment. It is the Partnership that has the statutory responsibility for Community Safety under Section 17 of the Crime

and Disorder Act. Their comments are attached as Appendix 2.

4.0 **Policy Implications**

4.1 The report suggests changes to the way matters relating to community safety are handled in Halton. If implemented the report would have ramifications on a number of partner organisations and how their services are delivered.

5.0 **Financial Implications**

5.1 If implemented in full, there would be set-up costs and ongoing revenue implications associated with office space and potentially increased staffing. A review of the accommodation would be necessary. Additional capital and revenue would therefore be required and an exercise carried out to quantify the costs.

6.0 **Council's Priorities**

6.1 Matters relating to community safety cut across all of the Councils priorities, but the primary focus is for A Safer Halton, reducing crime and the perception of crime and instances of anti-social behaviour.

7.0 **Risk Analysis**

7.1 There are no overt risks as the report concentrates on an overall strategic approach. If implemented, however, commitment from the identified partners, including a commitment of funds or in kind equivalent, would be required to ensure the approach is successful. If this is not present there is a risk that budgetary investment and structural change for some may happen for no overall great benefit.

8.0 **Equality and Diversity Issues**

8.1 The approach of the report is inclusive.

9.0 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

9.1 None under the meaning of the Act.

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer