

North Yorkshire County Council**Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee****28 April 2014****Proposal to create a North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership****1 Purpose of the paper**

- 1.1 To inform and consult the Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding the proposal to combine the six Community Safety Partnerships in North Yorkshire into one North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership.
- 1.2 All responsible authorities in North Yorkshire are being asked to consider and agree to the proposal by the end of July 2014. For North Yorkshire County Council, the decision will be taken by the Executive on 8 July 2014. The views of the Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the proposal will be included in the report to the Executive.

2 Background

- 2.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended) requires the police force¹, local authorities, fire and rescue, probation and clinical commissioning groups (collectively known as the responsible authorities) to work together and with others to:
- a. Protect their local communities from crime and help people feel safer;
 - b. Deal with local issues like antisocial behaviour, drug or alcohol misuse and re-offending; and
 - c. Assess local crime priorities and consult partners and the local community about how to deal with them.
- 2.2 Currently there are six Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) in North Yorkshire: Craven, Hambleton and Richmondshire, Harrogate, Ryedale, Scarborough and Selby. Originally there were seven; Hambleton and Richmondshire merged in 2011. In addition, legislation requires that where there is more than one CSP in a county council area, there must also be a county-wide strategy group.

¹ Although the former police authorities were defined as responsible authorities, the police and crime commissioners are not defined as responsible authorities.

- 2.3 Partners have been considering the nature and number of partnerships in recent years, including those relating to community safety. In January 2011 Local Government North Yorkshire and York agreed four principles for a new approach to partnerships:
- a. The minimum number and simplest of partnership structures, consistent with delivering the required outcomes and statutory requirements;
 - b. A North Yorkshire and York approach to county/sub-regional partnership structures as far as possible, recognising that a degree of pragmatism will be required given the different local authority structures in North Yorkshire and York;
 - c. Local partnerships, including shared community engagement arrangements, at the most appropriate local level; and
 - d. The use of task and finish groups to deal with particular issues, rather than standing thematic partnerships or sub-groups.
- 2.4 Until 2010 the Home Office provided funding to support the work of CSPs in England via the Government Offices for the Regions. From 2010 the Home Office funding came via upper-tier local authorities such as North Yorkshire County Council. In addition, since 2010 the amount of Home Office funding for community safety has reduced considerably; in North Yorkshire from over £700k per year to around £250k per year. In April 2013 the Home Office transferred the funding to the police and crime commissioners, as an integral part of their main grant from the Home Office rather than ringfenced or separately identified for CSPs.
- 2.5 Prior to the election of the police and crime commissioners, the York and North Yorkshire Safer Communities Forum reviewed the future of partnerships concerned with community safety with a view to reducing cost and concentrating local energy on a locally based problem solving approach. Proposals focused on reducing the number of CSPs whilst maintaining local groups to ensure the effective delivery of a locally based problem solving approach.
- 2.6 Discussions have continued since, with the involvement of the Police and Crime Commissioner for North Yorkshire following her election in November 2012. The Police and Crime Commissioner has strongly argued for the principle of one CSP for North Yorkshire, supported by district based local delivery teams, alongside one CSP for York.

3 Combination of CSPs

- 3.1 Legislation allows for responsible authorities to propose a combination of CSPs in the interests of efficiency and economy. The power to approve a combination now rests with the relevant police and crime commissioner, but the request can only come from the responsible authorities. The Home Secretary would only be only involved if a proposed CSP would cover all or parts of more than one police force area.

4 Proposal to create a North Yorkshire CSP

- 4.1 The proposal is to combine the six Community Safety Partnerships in North Yorkshire into one North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership, supported by district based local delivery teams.
- 4.2 The proposal is made in the interests of efficiency and economy given the significantly reduced resources available for community safety in North Yorkshire, alongside the background of significantly reduced budgets for most responsible authorities.
- 4.3 In this context, district based local delivery teams will better enable responsible authorities, through operational managers, to implement a partnership based problem solving approach - working together to identify and mitigate the impact of crime and disorder issues on the locality or victim and to promote crime prevention activities.
- 4.4 A single CSP will also better enable a strategic approach to community safety, including applying for funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner. The Police and Crime Commissioner has indicated that she is seeking bids for funding from a York CSP and a North Yorkshire CSP for the period October 2014 to March 2016, after which she will move to an open commissioning process.
- 4.5 All responsible authorities will need to agree to the proposal. There are currently 17 responsible authorities (police force, eight local authorities, fire and rescue authority, probation trust and six clinical commissioning groups), although the number will shortly increase to 18 when a national reorganisation of the probation service create a national probation service and regional community rehabilitation companies.
- 4.6 If any responsible authority does not agree to the proposal, the combination cannot go ahead in respect of the districts served by that responsible authority. However, the combination can still (and is expected to) go ahead in respect of all the districts not served by that responsible authority.
- 4.7 All responsible authorities have been requested to consider and agree to the proposal by the end of July 2014, with the combination taking effect no later than 30 September 2014, subject to the agreement of the Police and Crime Commissioner.
- 4.8 The funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner for the current six CSPs ends on 30 September 2014. Officers of the responsible authorities have already met as a shadow North Yorkshire CSP to start preparing a bid to the Police and Crime Commissioner for funding from October 2014, with an expected deadline for the bid of 30 June 2014.

5 Local authority crime and disorder overview and scrutiny committees

- 5.1 Every local authority is required to designate a committee with the power to review or scrutinise decisions made, or actions taken in connection by the discharge by the responsible authorities of their crime and disorder functions. North Yorkshire County Council has designated the Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee for this purpose.
- 5.2 This duty and power would not change with combination of the CSPs. It would be possible for local authorities to exercise this duty and power through a joint committee, but this would have to be entirely separate from the Police and Crime Panel. It is anticipated that the eight local authorities are likely to want to continue to exercise the duty and power individually in the best interests of their residents, but a protocol or understanding between the committees may be helpful to avoid any duplication of effort.

6 Recommendation

- 6.1 It is recommended that the Corporate and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee comments on the proposal to combine the six Community Safety Partnerships in North Yorkshire into one North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership.

Neil Irving
Assistant Director – Policy and Partnerships

14 April 2014

Appendix 1: Draft constitution North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership (draft as at 10 April 2014)

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North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership

DRAFT Constitution

1 Background

- 1.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended) requires the Police Service, Local Authorities, Fire and Rescue Authority, National Probation Service, Community Rehabilitation Company, and Clinical Commissioning Groups (collectively known as the responsible authorities) to work together and with others to:
- a. Protect their local communities from crime and help people feel safer;
 - b. Deal with local issues like antisocial behaviour, drug or alcohol misuse and re-offending; and
 - c. Assess local crime priorities and consult partners and the local community about how to deal with them.
- 1.2 In the interests of efficiency and economy, the responsible authorities in the county of North Yorkshire have agreed to establish a single Community Safety Partnership (CSP) for North Yorkshire (to be known as the North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership).
- 1.3 The purpose of the CSP is to bring together the responsible authorities, supported by other relevant organisations, to fulfil their statutory responsibilities to work together.
- 1.4 The CSP will be supported by district based Local Delivery Teams (LDTs).

2 Role and functions

- 2.1 The CSP will:
- a. Input into the development of the Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment (JSIA), in partnership with the LDTs.
 - b. Agree the Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment for North Yorkshire.
 - c. Develop and agree a three year Community Safety Partnership Plan, updated annually, for reducing crime and disorder in North Yorkshire.
 - d. Monitor and evaluate activity undertaken to deliver the Plan.
 - e. Develop links and opportunities for collaborative working between the responsible authorities and other relevant organisations to deliver the most efficient and effective community safety services for the communities of North Yorkshire within available resources.
 - f. Agree the terms of reference of the LDTs.

- g. Receive regular updates from each of the LDTs and provide updates in return.
- h. Mitigate risks to community safety services by finding and implementing the most appropriate control measures.
- i. Attract funding and resources from appropriate funding streams and/or organisations.
- j. Agree the utilisation of funding and other resources attracted by the CSP.
- k. Provide advice and feedback to the Police and Crime Commissioner to support the development of the Police and Crime Plan and commissioning strategy.
- l. Communicate and consult with the communities of North Yorkshire in partnership with the LDTs, on community safety matters and ensure any feedback received follows an appropriate channel to influence the work of the CSP.
- m. Take the lead with regard to Domestic Homicide Reviews, in accordance with national guidance.

3 Membership of the CSP

3.1 Meeting support:

- a. Chair - from one of the responsible authorities, elected annually by the representatives of the responsible authorities, working to a role description agreed by the representatives of the responsible authorities.
- b. Deputy Chair - from one of the responsible authorities, elected annually by the representatives of the responsible authorities, working to a role description agreed by the representatives of the responsible authorities.
- c. Secretariat support for meetings of the CSP - provided by North Yorkshire County Council.

3.2 Responsible Authorities:

- a. Airedale, Wharfedale and Craven Clinical Commissioning Group
- b. Craven District Council
- c. Hambleton District Council
- d. Hambleton, Richmondshire and Whitby Clinical Commissioning Group
- e. Harrogate and Rural District Clinical Commissioning Group
- f. Harrogate Borough Council
- g. Humberside, Lincolnshire, and North Yorkshire Community Rehabilitation Company
- h. National Probation Service
- i. North Yorkshire County Council
- j. North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Authority
- k. North Yorkshire Police
- l. Richmondshire District Council
- m. Ryedale District Council
- n. Selby District Council
- o. Scarborough and Ryedale Clinical Commissioning Group
- p. Scarborough Borough Council

- q. South Lakes Clinical Commissioning Group
- r. Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group

3.3 Representatives of responsible authorities:

- a. Every responsible authority will be represented by one person with the requisite authority necessary to direct activity related to community safety.
- b. A representative may nominate a named substitute with appropriate seniority and knowledge to attend and act in their absence.
- c. One person cannot represent more than one responsible authority.
- d. Representatives of responsible authorities shall receive agendas, papers and minutes of CSP meetings.
- e. Representatives of responsible authorities shall have the right to speak and vote on all items at all meetings.
- f. With the agreement of the CSP, it may be appropriate for more than one person from a responsible authority to receive agendas and papers for CSP meetings and to attend and vote on all items at all meetings; however only one representative from each responsible authority may vote at meetings.

3.5 Relevant organisations:

- a. Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
- b. North Yorkshire (Local) Criminal Justice Board
- c. North Yorkshire Youth Justice Service
- d. North Yorkshire and York Forum or nominated representative from the voluntary and community sector
- e. Safer York Partnership
- f. Other organisations as agreed from time to time by the responsible authorities

3.6 Representatives of relevant organisations:

- a. Every relevant organisation will be represented by one person appointed by the organisation with the requisite authority necessary to direct activity related to community safety.
- b. A representative may nominate a named substitute with appropriate seniority and knowledge to attend and act in their absence.
- c. Representatives of relevant organisations shall receive agendas, papers and minutes of CSP meetings.
- d. Representatives of relevant organisations shall have the right to speak on all items at all meetings but not to vote at meetings.

4 Meetings and other arrangements

4.1 The CSP shall meet at least three times a year on dates agreed by the CSP. Additional meetings may be called by the Chair and shall be called upon the request of representatives of at least four responsible authorities.

4.2 Meetings will be quorate if representatives of at least at six responsible authorities are present.

- 4.3 Every reasonable effort will be made to ensure that decisions are taken by consensus. In the event of a consensus not being reached, a decision will be reached by a simple majority of representatives of responsible authorities present and voting at the meeting, with each responsible authority having one vote. In the event of it not being possible to reach a decision by a simple majority of members present and voting, the Chair will have an additional casting vote. Voting shall be by show of hands.
- 4.4 In the absence of both the Chair and Deputy Chair, the representatives of the responsible authorities present will, as the first item of business, appoint one of themselves to chair the meeting.
- 4.5 The Chair will determine the content and structure of meeting agendas. Any member may suggest items for inclusion on the agenda by contacting the Chair at least ten working days before the meeting. Items not identified on the agenda may be raised by representatives under the 'Any Other Business' agenda item at the CSP meeting.
- 4.6 Agendas and papers for a meeting should normally be circulated five working days before the meeting is due to take place. The minutes of a meeting should normally be circulated within ten working days after the meeting.
- 4.7 All information included with agendas, papers and minutes of meetings must comply with all relevant public information legislation.
- 4.8 If any dispute or difference arises, members are expected to respect each other's views and seek to identify and deal with the issues of concern. If necessary, the Chair will identify a mutually acceptable person or process to guide the relevant members to a resolution.
- 4.9 All representatives of responsible authorities and all representatives of relevant organisations must declare any interests which could influence the decisions they make as part of the CSP.
- 4.10 The CSP may establish sub-groups to deliver specific pieces of work. Every sub-group must have terms of reference agreed by the CSP that clarify the remit, purpose and membership; and must be disestablished once the purpose has been achieved.
- 4.11 Whilst the work of the CSP may influence the decision and policy making of the responsible authorities and relevant organisations, the responsible authorities and relevant organisations appreciate that they are independent of each other and need to make their own decisions in relation to the work of the CSP in accordance with their own authority's or organisation's procedures. These responsibilities cannot be delegated to the CSP. Each representative therefore remains accountable to their own authority or organisation.

5 Local Delivery Teams

- 5.1 A Local Delivery Team (LDT) will exist for each of the districts in North Yorkshire. One LDT may work across more than one district by mutual agreement between the responsible authorities in those districts.
- 5.2 The purpose of the LDT is to bring together the operational managers of the responsible authorities, supported by other relevant organisations, to coordinate and ensure the delivery of the North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership Plan in the district, in particular to:
- a. Protect their local communities from crime and disorder, and help people feel safer;
 - b. Deal with local issues like antisocial behaviour, drug or alcohol misuse, re-offending and crime prevention; and
 - c. Assess local crime and disorder priorities and consult partners and the local community about how to deal with them.
- 5.3 As a minimum the LDT will:
- a. Input into the development of the Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment (JSIA) and the North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership Plan.
 - b. Coordinate the activity of responsible authorities and other relevant organisations to ensure the delivery of the North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership Plan in the district.
 - c. Share relevant local information and knowledge, including that supplied by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Police.
 - d. Adopt a problem solving approach; working in partnership to identify and mitigate the impact of crime and disorder issues on the locality or victim and to promote crime prevention activities.
 - e. Provide regular updates to and receiving regular updates from the North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership.
 - f. Advise the North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership on key matters relating to local community safety to support the development of strategic themes and priorities.
 - g. Monitor emerging trends and issues that require a quick delivery response.
 - h. Support partners and the community to deliver community safety solutions and projects in a timely and expedient manner.
 - i. Work collaboratively with North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership, delivery partners commissioned by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, and other LDTs to ensure enhanced, effective and efficient joined up delivery at district level.
- 5.4 Membership:
- a. Core (voting) membership will comprise operational managers from the responsible authorities.

- b. Representatives (operational managers) of other relevant organisations (for example the voluntary and community sector) may be co-opted, as agreed by the core membership.

5.5 Each LDT will agree its own arrangements with regard to:

- a. Appointment of Chair and Deputy Chair
- b. Administrative support
- c. Frequency of meetings
- d. Quorum
- e. Decision making
- f. Content of agenda
- g. Circulation of papers / action logs
- h. Resolution of disputes and differences
- i. Declaration of interests
- j. Task and finish groups

6 Constitution

6.1 This constitution will be reviewed by the CSP as necessary, but not less than every two years. All changes to terms of reference must be agreed by the CSP.