



PART B:	RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL
REPORT TO:	POLICY AND RESOURCES
DATE:	19 JUNE 2014
REPORT OF THE:	HEAD OF ECONOMY AND INFRASTRUCTURE JULIAN RUDD
TITLE OF REPORT:	COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS
WARDS AFFECTED:	ALL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek approval for the merger of the Ryedale Community Safety Partnership (CSP) with 6 North Yorkshire CSPs to create the North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 That Council is recommended to approve:
- (i) The merger of the Ryedale CSP with 6 North Yorkshire CSPs to create the North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership.(NYCSP)
 - (ii) That the Ryedale CSP Delivery Team, 'Safer Ryedale', becomes the Local Delivery Team for the NYCSP.

3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 The proposal is made in the interests of efficiency and economy given the significantly reduced resources available for community safety in the County, alongside the background of significantly reduced budgets for most 'responsible authorities'. It will enable an improved strategic approach to community safety issues.
- 3.2 The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) has indicated that commissions for future community safety activity will be awarded to only 1 community safety partnership in North Yorkshire.
- 3.3 All responsible authorities are being 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.

4.0 SIGNIFICANT RISKS

- 4.1 There is a risk that locally-based community safety activity will not be prioritised as the strategic decision making would be at the County level. However, by taking a full part in the development of the NYCSP, this potential risk is mitigated. Delivery would still be at the local level and Overview and Scrutiny retain the function to review all community safety activity.

5.0 POLICY CONTEXT AND CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Council Aim 4: Active Communities.
- 5.2 Consultation has been undertaken with Safer Ryedale Delivery Team. A report is being submitted to the Ryedale Strategic Partnership on 18th June (The Ryedale Strategic Partnership acts as the RCSP Board).

REPORT

6.0 REPORT DETAILS

- 6.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended) requires the police force, 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.
- 6.2 Currently there are six Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) in North Yorkshire: Craven, Hambleton and Richmondshire, Harrogate, Ryedale, Scarborough and Selby. 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. This was the York and North Yorkshire Safer Communities Forum. In Ryedale, the Ryedale Strategic Partnership is the Board of the RCSP and Safer Ryedale is the Delivery Team. www.ryesafe.org.
- 6.3 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.
- 6.4 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 annum to around £250k per annum. 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 ring-fenced or separately identified for CSPs.

- 6.5 Prior to the election of 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 focusing 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.
- 6.6 Discussions have continued since, including with the PCC following her election in November 2012. The PCC has strongly supported and encouraged the principle of one CSP for North Yorkshire, alongside one CSP for York. She also encouraged local areas to develop appropriate solutions for their area, which is set out in the arrangements for the local delivery teams.
- 6.7 The proposal is to combine the six CSPs in North Yorkshire into one North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership, supported by district-based Local Delivery Teams. Each of the responsible authorities will be represented at the North Yorkshire Community Safety Partnership. The Ryedale representative will be the Economy and Community Manager.
- 6.8 The draft constitution for the NYCSP is set out in Annex B; this will need to be agreed at the first meeting of the NYCSP.
- 6.9 The role of the NYCSP Chair and Deputy Chair is crucial and a 'role description' has been prepared (Annex C). It is important to note that the role has the duty to respond to any Domestic Homicide Reviews identified throughout the County.
- 6.10 Each district will have a Local Delivery Team that will develop appropriate responses to local issues. In Ryedale, it is recommended that the existing Safer Ryedale Delivery Team fulfils this role. This comprises officers from Ryedale District Council, North Yorkshire County Council, North Yorkshire Police, North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue, Yorkshire Housing, and North Yorkshire Probation, meeting quarterly to deliver the Safer Ryedale Action Plan. An invitation to all the relevant 'responsible authorities' and the voluntary sector will also be extended.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The following implications have been identified:
 - a) Financial
The funding from the PCC 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.
 - b) Legal
 - i. 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.

- ii. 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.
- iii. 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 go ahead in respect of the districts not served by that responsible authority.

c) Other

This decision has no immediate staffing implications. PCC funding for Safer Ryedale, awarded until September 2014 is allocated to the Crime and Disorder Post. It is anticipated that the NYCSP bid to be commissioned, from September 2015 until March 2016, will replace this funding.

8.0 NEXT STEPS

- 8.1 If approved, the Safer Ryedale team will contribute to the development of the bid to the PCC on behalf of the NYCSP. At present, the key priorities across North Yorkshire are Anti-Social Behaviour and Problem Solving, Domestic Abuse and Drug and Alcohol related crime. Road safety issues will continue to be dealt with by the '95 Alive' Partnership.

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