

Warwickshire Police Authority – 22 April 2009

Partnership Strategy

Report of the Chief Executive

Summary

This paper discusses a proposed strategy for identifying, evaluating and governing our major partnerships.

Recommendation

That the Authority notes this report and approves the partnership strategy and associated processes.

The Force and Authority have a number of robust partnership and collaborative arrangements and a track record of reacting when these arrangements need to be amended or terminated.

However, as was acknowledged in last year's Annual Governance Statement, work is needed to demonstrate a consistent approach to the management and governance of our partnerships. In particular, we need to underpin our partnership activity within a formal framework to strengthen the definition, purpose and outcomes of partnerships and address issues of governance in a consistent and structured way.

The attached draft strategy is intended to provide a set of tools to ensure that the Force and Authority's governance arrangements for all our partnerships are at an appropriate level. Once this has been achieved, it may then be necessary to re-visit the strategy to add processes for maintaining levels of scrutiny and for ensuring that new and prospective partnerships are properly assessed.

The implementation of the strategy will involve co-ordinated effort from Force and Authority and careful thought will have to be given to a timetable for delivery of the early action plan contained within the strategy. The most pressing action is to bring up to date our list of partnerships and it is suggested that we aim to complete this task by the end of June. A further progress report will be made to a future meeting of the Authority along with recommendations for the ongoing delivery and management of the strategy.

Members are asked to note this report and to approve the attached strategy together with the associated processes for identifying and evaluating partnerships.

**SUE HOWL
Chief Executive**