

Warwickshire Police Authority – 29 July 2009

**Warwickshire Partnerships and Local Policing –
Report of the Governance Stream Lead**

Purpose and Supporting Documents

This highlight report enables members to consider the progress made by the Police and the Authority in its Governing role in respect of partnerships and local policing directly related to those elements of the Governance and Policing Plans allocated to this Governance Stream.

Recommendation

That this report is discussed/noted.

1. Progress against 2008/2009 Governance Plan Priorities

- *Governing the performance and resources allocated to the delivery Safer Neighbourhoods.* Remains a live issue.
- *Engage with the County Council and Districts to regularise the relationship between CDRPs and Locality/Community Forums.* This priority is likely to be a permanent issue since relationships across two-tier local authorities and indeed within each will need constant effort.

Community Engagement & Consultation

- *Engage with partner agencies and the force to consolidate consultation arrangements ensuring that all policy aspects are covered and mechanisms in place to report results back to the Authority.* This is being addressed by the strategy earlier approved by the Authority.
- *Identify any aspects of relevance to the authority not covered by 3(above) and arrange specific consultation.* This is being addressed by the strategy earlier approved by the Authority.
- *Ensure that a single issue question and response facility is developed on the Authority web-site.* This has been agreed but has not yet been incorporated.
- *Ensure that appropriate feedback is provided to those consulted.* Development as addressed in the strategy has not yet been implemented.

District Partnership Leads

- *Ensure that District Partnership Leads are properly embedded in each district CDRP, LSP and in Locality/Community Forums.* District Leads made very good progress against this priority although due to differing approaches to the LSPs by District inhibited membership is variable. Sadly we have lost 3 of our 5 District leads following the local elections and members have yet to be nominated to replace them.
- *Attend Locality/Community forums and District Quarterly Performance Review and report back to the Authority.* This is being achieved.

Voluntary Services & Custody Visitors

- *Ensure that reporting processes are in place for custody visitors to raise issues with the force.* In hand.
- *Encourage an increase in the coverage of prisoners visited.* In hand.
- *Encourage an increase in the number of specials recruited.* See item in Local Policing Report (Appendix 1).

Safeguarding Children

- *Ensuring the Authority and Force have appropriate and effective policies and procedures in place to safeguard, protect and promote the well-being of children and young people as required by the Children Act 2004.* See report of Safeguarding Children (Appendix 5).

LCJB Link

- *Ensure the Authority is kept informed of any issues relevant to its business.* The LCJB has been problematical in that it did not wish to have a PA member in attendance. ACC Benjamin has been working on this and it is anticipated that the matter will be resolved.

2. Progress against Force Objectives

2.1 A detailed report is at Appendix 1.

3. Progress against Governance Objectives

3.1. Meeting with the Cabinet. The 3 stream leads and the CEO (with Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable in attendance) held a second meeting with the Cabinet on 6th April. Among the topics discussed were the CAA, Communication and Partnership working (confidence, community forums/locality working and CDRPs) and policing priorities. Once again this meeting proved make a valuable contribution to a better understanding of issues between us.

3.2. Public Service Board (PSB). Since the last report there have been 3 meetings of the PSB. The January meeting focussed on the LAA Financial Strategy and considered reports from Dave Clarke relating to the background to the report of the Area Base Grant (ABG) Scrutiny Panel which had been chaired by Chris Davis (I was the Police Authority (PA) representative on the panel). The core of the March meeting was a presentation by Mary-Ann Bruce of the Audit Commission on the

Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) who made it clear that the Audit Commission would be relying heavily on HMIC's inspection of the Police Authority for the input to the County Assessment. However it should be noted that The Warwickshire PA will not be inspected until mid-2010 at the earliest. Further meetings were held in April and June. It is of note that following the police initiative of introducing Priority Areas the PSB has adopted the same approach across all topics to address its commitment to "Narrowing the Gap" across the County.

3.3. Community Engagement & Consultation Panel report at Appendix 2.

3.4. District Lead Reports The reports by 2 District Leads are at Appendix 3.

3.5. Voluntary Services & Custody Visitors Report at Appendix 4.

3.6. Safeguarding Children Report at Appendix 5.

3.7. Regional APA Citizen Focus Partnership Network Meeting and National Meeting Report by Richard Hobbs at Appendix 6.

4. Diversity Issues

4.1. No diversity issues have arising during the period or with respect to this report.

5. High Risks

5.1 No new risks identified.

6. Governance Issues

7.1 There are no Governance issues to be addressed by the authority with respect to this report.

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