

CABINET MEETING

4th December 2000

**PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE ROLE AND STRUCTURE OF LEICESTER
PARTNERSHIP AGAINST CRIME AND DISORDER**

Report of the Director of Environment and Development

1. Purpose of report:

This report seeks endorsement of proposed changes to the role and structure of Leicester Partnership Against Crime and Disorder.

2. Summary:

2.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 required the Police and Leicester City Council to form a partnership to tackle crime and disorder in each local authority area. Members of Leicester Partnership Against Crime and Disorder include the police authority, probation service, the health authority, voluntary sector agencies, the business community and the courts.

2.2 The current City Council representatives on the Partnership are:

- Cllr. Swift
- Cllr. Gajjar
- Cllr. Nurse
- Cllr. Garrity
- Cllr. O'Brien
- Peter Webster, Director of Environment and Development Dept. (lead officer)
- Kishor Tailor, Assistant Director, Environment and Development Dept. (lead officer for crime and disorder strategy issues)
- Kim Bromley-Derry, Assistant Director, Social Services Dept. (lead officer for youth offending issues)

2.3 The Partnership is the senior decision making group within the crime and disorder management structure and carries the overall responsibility for the delivery of the city's crime and disorder strategy, including identifying resources. This group is supported by an officer level Community Safety Management Group which co-ordinates the different elements of the strategy and manages the strategic process.

2.4 Over the past year, there has been a reducing attendance at meetings. In addition, there has been a lack of clarity between the roles of the Partnership and the Management Group, agenda items are often duplicated at both meetings and a number of people attend both meetings.

2.5 We are now 18 months into the partnership arrangements and the delivery of the crime and disorder strategy. The chair of two of the key groups has recently changed and this seems an ideal opportunity to review the current structure.

2.6 In September the Partnership agreed, subject to agreement from partner organisations, to change the structure and role of it's meetings.

2.6.1 It was agreed that the Partnership should continue to meet quarterly but that it becomes a small executive group, having a core membership of the five statutory partners with other organisations (such as representatives from the voluntary sector) co-opted or invited to attend for specific issues.

2.6.2 It was also proposed that in addition, a wider forum meeting be held twice a year with community groups and business organisations. These fora could be used to enable feedback on crime and disorder issues, and formalise consultation on the strategy, etc.

2.6.3 The Community Safety Management Group will need to be empowered to make more decisions and to respond to consultations from other organisations and agree funding bids, etc.

3. Recommendation:

3.1 That members endorse the provisional agreement to the new role and structure of Leicester Partnership Against Crime and Disorder.

3.2 That members identify a suitable representative from the City Council for the new executive-type partnership group.

4. Financial and Legal Implications:

4.1 There are no significant financial implications arising from this report. Some funds will need to be provided to hold the proposed forum meetings with community groups and business organisations. These costs can be met from existing budgets.

4.2 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires local authorities and the police to set up crime and disorder partnerships and the police authority, probation service and the health authority are statutorily required to co-operate in the partnership. These agencies will continue to be core members in the new partnership structure. We are additionally required to invite a range of other agencies to become involved in the partnership process. These agencies can still be involved in the process through the Management Group, local Crime and Disorder Action Groups, the proposed new forum and the statutory consultation process.

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