

**AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET**

**Name of Committee** Cabinet  
**Date of Committee** 12 October 2006  
**Report Title** Stratford and Warwick Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships - Proposed New Working Arrangements

**Summary** A formal submission to merge the two existing Stratford on Avon and Warwick Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) into a single South Warwickshire CDRP is being prepared. This report sets out the case for a merger.

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**Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework?** No.

**Background papers** None

**CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-**

Details to be specified

Other Committees

Local Member(s)

Other Elected Members  Elected members represented on the current Warwick CDRP: Cllr Dave Shilton  
 Cllr Ken Browne  
 Cllr Mike Doody

Elected members represented on the current Stratford CDRP: Cllr Jill Dill-Russell  
 Cllr Richard Hobbs (Portfolio holder Community Safety)

Cabinet Member  Cllr Hobbs

Chief Executive

- |                          |                                     |  |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Legal                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Sarah Duxbury                              |
| Finance                  | <input type="checkbox"/>            |  |
| Other Chief Officers     | <input type="checkbox"/>            |  |
| District Councils        | X                                   | Stratford and Warwick District Councils    |
| Health Authority         | <input type="checkbox"/>            |  |
| Police                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Warwickshire Police and Police Authority   |
| Other Bodies/Individuals | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The Government Office of the West Midlands |

***FINAL DECISION***

***SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:***

Details to be specified

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| Further consideration by this Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| To Council                              | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| To Cabinet                              | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| To an O and S Committee                 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| To an Area Committee                    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Further Consultation                    | <input type="checkbox"/> |

## Agenda No

**Cabinet - 12 October 2006**

### **Stratford and Warwick Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships - Proposed New Working Arrangements**

#### **Report of the Strategic Director of Community Protection and County Fire Officer**

##### **Recommendations:**

- (1) That the proposal to develop a formal submission to merge the two existing Stratford on Avon and Warwick District Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) into a new, single South Warwickshire CDRP be endorsed by Cabinet.
- (2) That Cabinet requests that the draft submission be brought to Cabinet, before it is submitted to the Home Secretary and following consultation with the Warwick and Stratford Area Committees.

#### **1. Background/Information**

- 1.1 Since the introduction of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, which requires local authorities to work in partnership with police and other agencies to reduce crime and disorder in their areas, Stratford and Warwick districts have each operated multi-agency Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs). The County Council and District Councils are equal partners within a group of Responsible Authorities which work together to address community safety concerns for local people, within a national Home Office agenda.

#### **2. How the CDRPs have worked in the past**

- 2.1 Warwick and Stratford CDRPs have a history of close working. The Crime and Disorder Act required that every three years, an audit of crime and disorder in the area was carried out, consultation undertaken, and priorities and targets set by the CDRP. This process was carried out jointly by Stratford and Warwick CDRPs in 2001, followed by shared priorities and the formation of joint Priority Action Groups which worked together on the actions required to achieve the targets set. A further joint audit in 2004 has resulted in a single joint Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy for south Warwickshire for 2005-2008.

2.2 To complement this, the CDRPs have developed joint Terms of Reference, have common approaches to their membership, and have the same Vice-Chairman. Planning for Safer and Stronger Communities Funding, the Home Office CDRP funding allocation, has been carried out together, as has strategy target setting and performance management. In addition, the CDRPs have shared several jointly funded posts.

### **3. How the joint CDRP would like to work in the future**

3.1 It is proposed that it is now appropriate to build further on this increasingly close working by formally merging into a single CDRP. April 2006 saw the advent of central Safer and Stronger Communities Funding, which will be followed in 2007 by a Local Area Agreement. A single CDRP should:

- provide a strong base from which to access central funding streams
- simplify funding arrangements
- enhance the local agenda and the already developing focus on local issues and neighbourhood policing plans, enabling the CDRP to meet its communities' priorities and concerns
- allow the emphasis of time and resource to be directed to local communities rather than within bureaucratic structures, by streamlining these and paring them down
- streamline governance arrangements
- make a difference at local neighbourhood level by reducing crime and the fear of crime.

3.2 It should be noted that the Government Office for the West Midlands supports, in principle, the proposed merger. CDRP partner agencies are in the process of securing sign-up from their agencies.

3.3 Once this is achieved, further work on a formal submission is required. The submission will go to the Home Office through the Home Office Regional Director at Government Office, West Midlands. The final decision to change the existing arrangements sits with the Home Secretary. If approved, a formal Order will be made to join the two CDRPs in a legally binding arrangement.

3.4 Views of Cabinet members will be taken into account in the proposed submission to the Home Secretary.

## 4. Risk Assessment

- 4.1 For the proposed new working arrangement to be successful, positive sign-up by all partners including Warwickshire County Council (both as a Local Authority and as a Fire Authority) is required. *This is considered to be a high risk.*
- 4.2 The success of the final submission to the Home Office is dependent on the full proposal receiving the backing of the Home Office Regional Director at GOWM. *GOWM advise that the risk of this not being forthcoming is low.*
- 4.3 The creation of a larger, single CDRP may be perceived by the public as losing local influence and control. This will be addressed fully in any submission to the Home Office. *This risk is considered to be low to medium.*

## 5. Conclusion

- 5.1 Currently the two CDRPs operate closely, albeit with separate meetings, groups and action plans. The proposed merged single CDRP should streamline these processes, add value and improve performance.
- 5.2 Officers are preparing a formal submission to the Home Secretary the first draft of which will be submitted in December 2006.
- 5.3 It is suggested that this more detailed draft submission should be brought for endorsement to a future meeting of Cabinet, following consultation with the relevant Area Committees.

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Community Protection and  
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