

<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Head of Policy</b>
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<b>Portfolio Leader:</b>	<b>Crime and Partnerships</b>
<b>Key Decision:</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Report Track:</b>	<b>Cabinet: 20/06/13</b>

**CABINET**  
**20 JUNE 2013**  
**UPDATE ON PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITY**

**1 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To provide an update on Partnership working within Cannock Chase to ensure that Cabinet are briefed on key issues and opportunities.

**2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 That Cabinet note the update on Partnership activity and allocation of LSP funds
- 2.2 That Cabinet identify any specific areas of interest for future reports

**3 Key Issues and Reasons for Recommendation**

- 3.1 This report is the regular quarterly report to update Cabinet on key areas of Partnership work following the LSP cycle of meetings in December 2012 and March 2013. The report includes an update on the three priority themes for the Partnership (Improved Health, Increased Economic Opportunity and Community Safety), together with detailed information and case studies on specific initiatives.
- 3.2 Cabinet will recall that the LSP has adopted its own governance structure and Terms of Reference, and therefore the quarterly update reports are intended to provide a summary of Partnership work for information. Any particular areas of interest to Cabinet can be reported in more detail in future Partnership Update reports, hence the recommendation that Cabinet identify specific areas of interest in respect of Partnership working.

**4 Relationship to Corporate Priorities**

4.1 This report supports the Council's Corporate Priorities as follows:

(i) The Partnership vision is shared with this Council and the Council's priorities were established alongside the development of the Partnership priorities as set out in the Sustainable Community Strategy. Therefore the Partnership Delivery Plan includes actions which contribute to all of the Council's priorities and in particular, through the Economic, Health and Community Safety activities, will contribute to the Prosperity, People and Place priorities respectively.

**5 Report Detail**

5.1 At the meeting of Cabinet on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2012, the regular Partnership Update report was noted and it was resolved that, in future, an Update would be required on a quarterly basis following the LSP Strategic Board meeting cycle.

The Strategic Board has met twice since the last Partnership update to Cabinet in November 2012. This report provides a summary of key Partnership activity and areas of work since the previous update together with information on LSP funding allocations.

This report also provides an overview of progress against the three areas of Partnership work as detailed below:

- Improved Health
- Increased Economic Opportunity
- Community Safety

**5.2 Improved Health**

Cabinet will recall that two local Health Summits were held in 2012 which concluded with agreement by all partners on the following key priority areas of work for the future:

- Poor Health Prevention
- Health Improvement
- Disease Prevention
- Joint Commissioning
- Management of Long-Term Conditions

At the second Health Summit on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2012 the newly-appointed Director of the CCG was nominated as the Health and Wellbeing lead for the LSP. It was agreed that the Director would Chair a meeting of key Partner organisations, before the next Executive Board meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> November, to determine the structure and membership of a local Health and Wellbeing forum.

This proposed structure, remit and membership would be presented to the Executive Board for consideration which would recommend a final structure to the Strategic Board at its meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2012.

A draft Terms of Reference for a Health and Wellbeing Local Commissioning Partnership (LCP) was presented to the Strategic Board in December 2012 along with proposed membership of the LCP. As a result of the discussion on LCP membership it was agreed that portfolio holders would be invited to attend the three thematic meetings of the LSP as follows:

- Health and Wellbeing LCP: Culture and Sport and Health and Wellbeing
- Joint Operations Group: Crime and Partnerships
- Enterprise and Skills Board: Economic Development and Planning

The LCP met on 1<sup>st</sup> May to receive a presentation from the Council's Policy and Performance Manager which detailed key health information from the Census and other sources of health-related information for Cannock Chase. The LCP intend to use this information to develop a Delivery Plan for Health and Wellbeing work across the Partnership.

### **5.3 Increased Economic Opportunity**

Cabinet will recall a local Enterprise and Skills Board (ESB) was established in September 2012 which had been tasked by the Strategic Board with developing the Economic Delivery Plan and agreeing Partnership initiatives in respect of this priority.

The ESB has developed four partnership projects which will be implemented in 2013/14 as follows:

1. Apprenticeship Incentive Scheme for local businesses – This project offers a £1000 incentive to local businesses to recruit a new employee in the form of an apprentice. The incentive rises to £1500 for an apprentice or business running in the Blake area. The total allocation was £50,000 of LSP monies and the project will be managed by South Staffordshire College.
2. Business Development Programme – This will provide match funding (£30,000) to the ERDF project to increase the take up rates by local businesses which are growing or expanding in the district. This initiative will be led by Cannock Chase District Council.
3. Business Support Event – An event will be funded (to a maximum cost of £1000) to provide information and support to local businesses and signpost to funding opportunities. This project will be managed by South Staffs College.
4. Enterprise Start-up Programme - This project aims to bring together a package of additional support to help promote the concept of self-

employment within the District and to support those who are at the early stages of embarking on starting their own business. £20,000 has been allocated by the Strategic Board for this project which will be managed by the Council.

Updates on the progress of these projects will be included in future Cabinet reports on Partnership activity.

#### 5.4 **Community Safety**

Cabinet will recall that, following the restructure of partnership working in May 2011, the community safety agenda was combined with the broader LSP work. This allowed for a more effective way of working with Partners and ensured that cross-cutting issues (such as alcohol and unemployment) could be considered by the same Board when determining priorities for Partnership work. At the same time, the LSP agreed an outcome-focussed approach to community safety service delivery and drafted a Delivery Plan with three priority outcomes:

- Increased Assurance in the Community
- Improved Living Environments
- Reduced Offending

Cabinet will recall that the Strategic Board received a presentation on the key findings of the Strategic Assessment at its meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> September and has tasked the Joint Operations Group (JOG) to refresh the Community Safety Delivery Plan accordingly.

Since the last update to Cabinet on Partnership work, the JOG has continued to implement the current Community Safety Delivery Plan successfully; a brief summary of key achievements is outlined below.

##### Vulnerable Persons' Champion

Cabinet will recall that the LSP has commissioned a Vulnerable Persons' service from Victim Support for two years. This post has been central in ensuring a focus on victims and vulnerable alongside the work which focuses on offenders. The funding for this post was due to expire on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013 and, as Cabinet will be aware, the Council has now mainstreamed this post as part of the budget-setting process in February 2013. The previous post holder has now successfully been transferred to the Council as an employee and has been able to continue to offer the service to vulnerable people across the District. A current case study is detailed below:

##### Vulnerable Persons' Champion case study

*The post holder received a case through the Daily Partnership Briefing regarding a couple who had received homophobic abuse and anti-social behaviour from a nearby neighbour. Initially this appeared to be an isolated incident.*

*Upon the post holder meeting with the complainants, they spoke about how this was a long-term issue which had begun three years previously with incidents of noise nuisance but had steadily escalated over time to include harassment, intimidation, threats of physical violence and an assault from the neighbours' associate. The couple were terrified in their own home and the situation was having a severely detrimental impact upon their quality of life. During discussions it soon also became apparent that many more neighbours were experiencing similar issues. As a result, the VPC met with six other individuals from nearby properties, some of whom had been too intimidated to speak to or complain to anyone previously and had been suffering in silence.*

*A package of emotional and practical support was provided to all victims and a proactive plan to abate the issues was formulated. As the alleged perpetrators were tenants in a privately rented property, the Council's housing team were unable to become involved. As a result, a meeting with representatives from Staffordshire Police and Environmental Health was arranged with the victims by the post holder. This meeting explained the action that could be taken by their agencies and the correct reporting procedures. These procedures were followed by the victims with support and encouragement from the post holder, especially regarding their concerns over potential repercussions and reprisals from the alleged perpetrators.*

*Staffordshire Police and Environmental Health are in the process of analysing reports from the victims before deciding whether they can take enforcement action at this point. Simultaneously, an overview of complaints was also passed to the landlord of the property. Upon receiving the complaints and following an in-depth discussion with the post holder about the affects that the behaviour of their tenants was having upon not only direct neighbours, but also the wider community, the landlord exercised their right to issue a notice demanding that their tenants leave the premises.*

*At the time of writing, there was only a matter of days remaining before the expiry of the notice and all victims expressed their overwhelming relief and thanks to the post holder that their "nightmare was finally reaching its conclusion". Support from the post holder shall remain in place until the victims feel that it is no longer necessary.*

#### Acceptable Behaviour Contracts

The Police and Partnership team have been busy tackling ASB incidents that have occurred in Rugeley and Cannock. The PCSO's have been issuing a number of ASB stages; if the alleged perpetrator continues to cause ASB then this can lead to issuing an Acceptable Behaviour Contract which is an ASB stage 4. The table below details the number of ASB cases issued with Stage1 – 4 since January 2013.

<b>ASB Stages issued since January 2013</b>	<b>Number issued</b>
Stage 1	3
Stage 2	3
Stage 3	8
Stage 4	10
Total	24

ABC's require partnership involvement from the Police, Community Safety Partnership Team and Targeted Youth Support Service.

The recent ABC's have all been issued at the Police station, the individual concerned and their parents are invited along to the Police station where the contract is read out and signed. The contract contains details of the incidents that have occurred which has led to the young person being called in for an ABC.

The contract also details the actions that the individual must abide by to ensure that they do not get into any further trouble this may include:

- Not to cause nuisance or annoyance to the general public.
- Refrain from going into certain areas.
- Not to mix with specific named individuals.

The ABC's last for 12 months and are reviewed after 3 months or 6 months dependant upon what is agreed at the meeting.

If the individual refuses to sign the ABC or defaults on the terms of the contract any future ASB will be collated as evidence, alongside the ABC itself, to present to court. The court outcome would depend on the nature and scale of the offence/s but could include the issuing of an ASBO, an injunction or a criminal conviction.

ABC's have provided mixed results although the majority of individuals have successfully adhered to the terms of the contract. The recent increase in ABCs issued will be monitored and success rates reported in future Cabinet reports.

**6 Implications**

**6.1 Financial**

There are no direct Financial Implications arising from the report.

The funding of each initiative is detailed in the relevant Delivery Plan as reported to the LSP Executive Board.

Funding from the LSP direct comes from a Partnership financial reserve which is a combination of external funding streams such as the Safer and Stronger Communities Fund and the Locality Funds together with previous LPSA 2 reward grants and money paid into the LSP budget by individual partner organisations. Whilst this reserve has been used to allocate resources to some of the projects within the Plan, it is important to note that this a finite fund and is unlikely to be replenished in the future and therefore any opportunity to match-fund projects or achieve success through working differently with partners must be realised.

**6.2 Legal**

None

**6.3 Human Resources**

None

**6.4 Section 17 (Crime Prevention)**

The Partnership Delivery Plan is integral in ensuring that this Authority, and our partners meet the statutory duty placed upon the 'Responsible Authorities' under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998

**6.5 Human Rights Act**

None

**6.6 Data Protection**

None

**6.7 Risk Management**

None

**6.8 Equality & Diversity**

Council involvement in specific projects may be subject to an Equality Impact Assessment

6.9 **Best Value**

None

**7 Appendices to the Report**

None

**Previous Consideration**

**Background Papers**

None