Cabinet
3 August 2011

KEY DECISION NO
DATE ADDED TO FORWARD PLAN

ST. HELENS COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (CSP) DELIVERY PLAN 2011/2012

WARDS AFFECTED

All

EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

No.

1.0 PROPOSED DECISION

1.1 To recommend that St.Helens Council approves the CSP Delivery Plan 2011/2012 attached at Appendix 1.

2.0 JUSTIFICATION FOR THE DECISION

2.1 During 2010, Government guidance began referring to Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRP) as Community Safety Partnerships (CSP), as part of a wider drive to use more straightforward language and better reflect their role in keeping communities safe. St Helens CDRP formally agreed to change its designation to a CSP at its meeting in September 2010.

2.2 Alongside the changes in nomenclature, the Coalition Government published its Police Reform and Social Responsibly Bill which included a commitment to the removal of 'regulations in order to free up local community safety partnerships from unnecessary bureaucracy'. The resulting legislation, the Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) (Amendment) Regulations (2011) confirmed the CSP's core statutory duties of regular strategic assessment and the development of a multi agency delivery plan based on that process but also provide for greater flexibility in the constitution and operation of CSPs.

2.3 A key change to the core membership of CSPs has been the addition of the Probation Service as a 'Statutory Partner' and a duty placed upon CSPs to formulate a strategy to reduce reoffending by adults and young people.

2.4 In order to increase transparency, CSP's are also now required to hold at least one meeting each year in public, however all St Helens CSP meetings are held in public and have done so since December 2009. Increasing attendance by members of the public has been a positive feature of recent St Helens CSP meetings.

2.5 The Council's constitution requires the CSP Delivery Plan to be approved by full Council.

3.0 FACTS SUPPORTING THE PROPOSED DECISION

3.1 St. Helens CSP was formed in 1999 and since that time has contributed to significant reductions in crime, disorder and antisocial behavior. During 2010/2011, the following reductions were achieved:-

All Crime	5%
Domestic Burglary	6%
Personal Robbery	35%
ASB calls for service to Police	20%
ASB Repeat Victimisation	50%

(**Source: North West Regional Crime Tracker May 2011)**

3.2 The work of the CSP is underpinned by a strategic assessment that draws data and information from a wide range of agencies, including the local authority, police, primary care trust, probation trust, fire and rescue service and registered social landlords, in order to provide a comprehensive picture of local crime and disorder. This work is further informed by an extensive community consultation programme, via questionnaire and the Council's website, to provide a strong community input into the assessment process.

3.4 The Strategic Assessment for 2011/2012 was completed in April 2011 and identified the following, as priorities for the CSP Delivery Plan:-

- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Drugs and drug related crime
- Violent crime (including alcohol related and night time economy)
- Domestic violence
- Domestic burglary
- Youth crime
- Vehicle crime
- Business crime
- Organised, gun and knife crime
- Hate crime

3.5 The CSP Strategic Assessment is primarily a practitioner document and, as such, is subject to ongoing review in support of effective planning and delivery. In contrast, the CSP Delivery Plan is intended as a public document with the aim of ensuring that local residents are kept informed of the work of the partnership and its effectiveness in tackling local priorities.

3.6 CSP partners have experienced significant reductions in both direct and grant funding as a result of the Coalition Government's public sector spending cuts. In response, this year's CSP Plan has sought to sustain particularly effective areas of delivery and look for further efficiencies through co-location, streamlining of support processes and reducing management and other ancillary costs. The 2011/2012 CSP Delivery Plan reflects these contextual changes and includes a number of recent developments in delivery activity, including:

- A comprehensive range of outreach and individual/group based interventions aimed at preventing youth crime, with a particular emphasis on restorative justice options

and victim involvement.

- A rolling programme of multi agency operations to deal with seasonal, people and place based problems of crime and anti social behaviour;

- A continued focus on reoffending through the continued development of Integrated Offender Management arrangements;

- Ongoing communication and engagement work with residents to enable them to become active participants in tackling crime and ASB;

- Recommissioning drug and alcohol treatment services to support recovery and promote social inclusion.

3.7 The CSP is one of a number of 'thematic' groups of the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and the CSP Plan also acts as the delivery vehicle for the LSP's safer communities' priorities. Development of the plan has taken account of key partner's performance management frameworks and the need to contribute towards the delivery of the St Helens Plan (2011-14).

3.8 Following agreement of the CSP Delivery Plan 2011/2012, copies will be circulated to all CSP partners and made available to the public in electronic form via the Council's website. A small number of hardcopies will made available to the public via other key contact points, such as Libraries.

4.0 RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PROPOSED DECISION

4.1 Without effective local arrangements for strategic assessment and multi agency delivery there is a potential for the recent reductions in crime, disorder and anti social behaviour to be reversed and for community concerns and anxiety to increase.

4.2 There is also a risk that the plan will not deliver the desired outcomes, though this should be mitigated through the regular monitoring and evaluation of progress by the CSP and its Executive, themselves operating within the wider context of the LSP.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Legal - None.

Financial - Direct costs for publication and launch of the CSP Delivery Plan will be met from within existing budgets.

Human Resources – None

Land and Property (Asset) - None

Anti Poverty - None.

Effects on existing Council Policy – Will contribute to the reductions in crime and the fear of crime.

Effects on other Council Activities – None.

Human Rights - None.

Agenda 21 - None.

Equalities – None.

Asset Management – None.

Health – None.

6.0 PREVIOUS APPROVAL/CONSULTATION

6.1 The development of the CSP Delivery Plan has involved representatives from a wide range of Local Authority services and partners including Merseyside Police, St Helens and Halton PCT, Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service, Merseyside Probation Trust and Helena Partnerships.

6.2 The draft CSP Plan has previously been considered by Chief Officers and their views have been incorporated in the copy attached.

7.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS AND IMPLICATIONS THEREOF

There is a legal requirement to produce and publish a CSP Delivery Plan on at least an annual basis.

8.0 APPENDICES

Appendix 1: St.Helens CSP Delivery Plan 2011/2012 (draft)

The Contact Officer for this report is Andy Dempsey, Head of Corporate and Community Safety, 1st Floor, Atlas House, 01744 675933.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following list of documents were used to complete this report and are available for public inspection for four years from the date of the meeting from the Contact Officer named above.

None.