



To: Community Services Scrutiny Committee
Report by: Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health - Cllr Tim Bick
Relevant scrutiny committee: Community Services Scrutiny Committee
Wards affected: All Wards

LAA Performance Report 2009/10 - SAFER AND STRONGER STRATEGIC BOARD

Not a Key Decision

1. Executive summary

- 1.1 The City Council is a key partner in Cambridgeshire Together. This partnership had overall responsibility for negotiating the Local Area Agreement (LAA) for Cambridgeshire and is overseeing its delivery.
- 1.2 Cambridgeshire Together has delegated responsibility for delivery of targets within the LAA to 6 thematic strategic partnerships. The Leader sits on Cambridgeshire Together and an Executive Councillor from the City Council sits on each of the thematic strategic partnerships.
- 1.3 It was agreed that they should present an annual report on performance against their partnership's LAA targets to the relevant City Council Scrutiny Committee. This paper relates to the LAA targets delegated to the Safer and Stronger Strategic Board under the theme of Safer and Stronger Communities. The Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health represents the City Council on this partnership.

2. Recommendations

The Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 Consider the 2009/10 year-end performance against the LAA indicators that have been assigned to the Safer and Stronger Board.
- 2.2 Advise the Executive Councillor of any issues or suggestions for further action that the partnership should consider to improve performance against the indicators.

3. Background

- 3.1 An approach to our involvement in, and reporting on, county-wide thematic strategic partnerships was agreed by the Leader at Strategy and Resources scrutiny committee on 19 January 2009. Executive Councillors, nominated by the Council, now sit on the Cambridgeshire Together Board alongside other key public service stakeholders in the county and are involved in each of its six thematic strategic partnerships.
- 3.2 It was agreed that they should present an annual report on performance against their partnership's LAA targets to the relevant City Council Scrutiny Committee. This paper relates to the LAA targets 'owned' by the Safer and Stronger Board under the theme of Safer and Stronger Communities. The Executive Councillor for Community Development and Health represents the City Council on this partnership.

4. Introduction to Safer and Stronger Strategic Board

- 4.1 The Safer and Stronger Strategic Board ("the Board") grew out of the Community Safety Strategic Board and brings together Community Safety Partnerships (formerly Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships), the Domestic Violence Partnership, the Drug and Alcohol Action Team, the Road Safety Partnership, Community Cohesion, Community Engagement and Third Sector Development.
- 4.2 Recent work of the Board has included a commitment to extend an integrated Offender Management Programme across Cambridgeshire, the development and launch of the a Third Sector Assembly, agreement about the allocation of revenue funding to district Community Safety Partnerships, Domestic Abuse Unit and Priority and Prolific Offender schemes in Cambridgeshire and the implementation of new duties to improve the economy, efficiency and effectiveness of its sub-partnerships.
- 4.3 The Safer Officer Group and the Stronger Officer Group sit beneath the Safer and Stronger Strategic Board, bringing together representatives from key partner organisations. They provide the main operational direction for the two themes (Safer and Stronger) and take the lead on managing performance against the National Indicators (performance targets agreed with central government).

4.4 The Board oversees the performance of the following LAA targets:

To be reduced:

- NI 16 - serious acquisitive crime (burglary, vehicle crime and robbery)
- NI 17 - perception of anti-social behaviour
- NI 20 - assault with less serious injury
- NI 21 - dealing with local concerns about antisocial behaviour and crime issues by the local council and police (Local Target)
- NI 32 - repeat incidents of domestic violence
- NI 47 - people killed or injured in road traffic accidents
- NI 115 - substance misuse by young people

To be increased:

- NI 1 - % of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together
- NI 4 - % of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality
- NI 7 - environment for a thriving third sector

5.0 Performance against LAA targets

5.1 Overall the majority of performance indicators in this area were thought to be on target. The following LAA indicators, shown in Table 1, overseen by this partnership had missed its target at the end of the second year.

Table1: Underperforming Indicators at end of year 2009/10

NI	Description	Baseline	Current Performance	Target 2009/10
NI 115	Safer & Stronger Substance misuse by young people	11.8	9.6	9.1

5.2 The indicator for ***substance misuse by young people***, the number of young people who are thought to be using drugs, is measured at a district level through the TellUs4¹ survey, which was carried in late 2009. It is also used to inform other national indicators of the views of children and young people about their area. The Safer and Stronger Strategic Board is seeking to negotiate a more appropriate target with GOEast, as it feels this indicator overstates the extent of misuse.

Local issues affecting performance of LAA targets

6. Safer Communities

6.1 2009/10 was generally a successful year in meeting targets for the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership. However, delays in getting confirmation of Safer and Stronger Funding for 2010/11 and subsequent cuts of 10% in the promised funding have meant that the majority of projects have been hold until July of this year with possible impact on reduction in crime for the first half of this year. The Community Safety Partnership have now reviewed their spend plan and task group action plans and are working hard to make up for lost time. Local outcomes for indicators that the partnership contributes to are shown below.

a. NI16 – Serious Acquisitive Crime (SAC)

6.2 This indicator includes burglary of homes, personal robbery, business robbery and theft from and of vehicles. ***In 2009/10 SAC was reduced overall in Cambridge City by 21%***, when compared to the previous year. The Cambridge Community Safety Partnership had burglary and personal robbery as priorities and the Acquisitive Crime Group had an extensive action plan to reduce these crimes.

6.3 ***Burglary of homes was reduced by 27%***. As part of Operation Vigilance – a home office funded initiative – the burglary task group carried out a series of actions, for example:

- *A small number of suspected prolific offenders were identified and then targeted. Enforcement activities were organised, planned and executed to disrupt their offending behaviour.*
- *The City Council's refuse vehicles were used to run an advertising campaign promoting 'Crimestoppers' and to encourage the anonymous submission of information regarding offenders.*
- *The Cambridge Community Safety Partnership funded continuation of the focused youth work in the north of the City. The work was also replicated and extended to the south. Between 8-10 young people were positively engaged in diversionary activities.*

6.4 ***Personal robbery was reduced by 27%***.

Work includes:

- *Running a marketing campaign targeting groups most represented as both victims and offenders of personal robbery.*

- *The Children and Young People's Services targeting diversionary activities to increase the awareness of the consequences of offending behaviour.*
- *The physical environment of areas identified to be at risk of personal robbery offences were improved through better lighting and fencing.*

6.5 *Burglary and Personal robbery remain priorities for the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership for 2010/11.*

b. NI17 – Perceptions of anti-social behaviour (ASB)

c. NI21 - Dealing with local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by the local council and police

6.6 The focus for the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership (CCSP) for 2009/10 was on alcohol related anti-social behaviour, and vehicle/pedal cycle-related ASB. Criminal damage is monitored as the crime most closely related to ASB. The CCSP priority to reduce these offences below the levels of 2008/09 has been soundly achieved.

6.7 ***Criminal damage offences (including Threats) were 19.6% lower*** than in 2008/09. When compared with similar partnerships in its family group, Cambridge is 5th out of 15 partnerships.

The projects that contributed to the reduction included:

- *Street surgeries which were held by City Council, Police, Fire and Rescue Service and the Bobby Scheme, promoting community safety messages, distributing forensic property marking fluid and fitting security locks and fire alarms. Broken fences were mended and garage blocks painted. Labour was provided under the 'community payback' scheme and extra policing.*
- *The 'Sort Your Lights Out' project aimed to discourage anti-social cycling and encourage safe and legal parking. Council staff and police held a series of events where 210 fixed penalty notices were issued and 200 sets of lights were fixed.*
- *The Motiv8 Youth project targeted 12-15 year olds on acceptable behaviour contracts (ABCs) or at risk of obtaining ABCs and provided structured activities, The Young people were rewarded by qualifications at the end of the project. Of the 13 youths who attended only 2 have come to the attention of the police since the end of the project.*

d. N120 – Assault with injury

6.8 The priority for the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership for 2009/10 was Alcohol Related Violent Crime. This priority is

monitored through recorded offences for Assault with Less Serious Injury; **these offences were reduced by 13% in 2009/10** when compared with the previous year. When compared with similar partnerships in its family group, Cambridge is 3rd out of 15 partnerships so is performing very well.

The Alcohol Related Violent Crime and ASB task group worked on projects including:

- *Operation Sodium – providing a highly visible police presence in hotspot areas in the City and supporting partner agencies in the nighttime economy on special events during the year such as Christmas and New Year.*
- *Street Pastors, where trained volunteers patrol on Friday and Saturday nights, providing practical assistance to people in difficulty or distress from over-indulgence.*
- *CAMBAC taxi marshalling, the nighttime care facility, training for bar staff and work with Addenbrookes Emergency Department.*

6.9 Alcohol related violent crime and anti-social behaviour remain a priority for the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership for 2010/11.

e. NI32 – Repeat incidence of Domestic Violence

6.10 The County target for NI32 is that repeat rates should not be higher than 28% has been achieved. **The highest number of referrals to the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) in the County is from Cambridge, making up 30% of all referrals for the 2009/10.** Efficiencies and savings have been made by working closely with other districts on the issue of domestic abuse. It made sense therefore for the City, South and East Domestic Violence task groups to be merged and this has happened.

6.11 The Sanctuary scheme continued to provide victims of domestic abuse with a secure area within a property, allowing them and their dependents to remain in the family home, avoiding homelessness. 5 Sanctuaries were provided in Cambridge City last year. Other projects that continued to tackle domestic abuse were the Women's Freedom programme run by Women's Aid providing 48 groups sessions and the Young people's freedom programme run by Romsey Mill aimed at young women who had been subjected to domestic abuse.

6.12 Domestic Violence remains a priority for the Cambridge Community Safety Partnership for 2010/11.

f. NI115 - Substance misuse by young people

- 6.13 ***The Drug and Alcohol Team report that they have exceeded their 2009/10 target for the number of clients in effective treatment:*** the number of Problem Drug Users is 1.187 (118% of the target) and the number of adults is 1,418 (115% of the target).

Work includes:

- *A new treatment service the Cambridgeshire Child and Adolescent Substance Use Service (CASUS) is expected to have a positive impact on the amount of work that can be done in this area across the County as staffing levels have increased and links with other service deliverers has improved.*
- *The Prolific and Priority Offenders and the Drug Intervention programmes have been merged and re-located to Parkside Police Station and will now be managed under the Integrated Offender Management initiative.*
- *Addaction has been contracted to provide Alcohol Services across the County. The key feature of the new service is to deliver within the community to raise awareness of the dangers of alcohol abuse and to maximise access to specialist help for “emerging risk” drinkers.*

7. Stronger Communities

- 7.1 The City's grant funding contributes to the general aims of the safer and stronger themes and specifically to a number of indicators, for example:

a. NI 32 - repeat incidents of domestic violence

Work includes:

- *Funding to support the delivery of the Freedom Programme courses.*

b. NI 1% - people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together

Work includes:

- *Establishing a new grants budget 2010-11 within Community Developing support for community cohesion projects*
- *Generally Community Development Grants, including Area Committee Grants, support activities and services across the diverse range of communities in local neighbourhoods, across the City and the surrounding area.*
- *Consultation is taking place on combating the threat of violent extremism and building better relations with Muslim communities, in particular.*

- *Delivering LPSA projects such as Bling-Ya-Ting and the Cambridge Mela.*

c.NI 7 – environment for a thriving third sector

Work includes:

- *Developing and raising awareness of the voluntary sector Compact.*
- *The formation of a Compact and Funders Countywide Partnership.*
- *Standardisation of grant forms across the statutory agencies*
- *Infrastructure Organisation’s Review*
- *Joint Monitoring of organisations funded by multiple statutory agencies*
- *Mapping the funding allocated by statutory agencies to third sector organisations countywide.*

7. Implications

7.1 The LAA sets out shared priorities and agreed targets for partners across the County, including Cambridge City Council. Failure to meet these targets will have an impact on the quality of life of County residents.

Financial

7.2 Failure to meet all the LAA targets at the end of the 3 year period (2008/09 – 2010/11) will reduce the amount of grant awarded to Cambridgeshire Together, assuming this is allocated.

Staff

7.3 A considerable number of City Council staff from all departments are working with partners to deliver the LAA.

Equal Opportunities

7.4 Equality and Inclusion is a key strand of the LAA

Community Safety

7.5 Safer and Stronger Communities is a key strand of the LAA

8. Background papers

These background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

Cambridgeshire Area Self Assessment – May 2010

Local Area Agreement, Year End Performance Report - May 2010

Proposals for a New Model of Partnership Working – May 2010

Cambridge LSP, Performance Management Report – January 2010

9. Inspection of papers

To inspect the background papers or if you have a query on the report please contact:

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