

# Title of report: Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership

**Meeting:** Connected Communities Scrutiny Committee

**Meeting date:** Monday 13 February 2023

**Report by:** Adrian Turton, Partnership Officer on behalf of the Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership

## Classification

Open

## Decision type

This is not an executive decision.

## Wards affected

(All Wards)

## Purpose

In accordance with the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Herefordshire Council Connected Communities Scrutiny Committee delivers the crime and disorder scrutiny function for Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership.

## Recommendation(s)

**The scrutiny committee is asked to note the reports and to make comment and offer any recommendations to the Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership regarding the Partnership's direction of travel in 2023/24.**

## Alternative options

1. No alternative is required for this scrutiny process

## Key considerations

2. That on 13 February 2023, the committee consider the effectiveness of the Community Safety Partnership (CSP) in improving community safety in Herefordshire, the latest statistics and trends in local crime; how each of the responsible authorities engages with and contributes resources to the work of the CSP; the effectiveness of leadership and partnership arrangements; how the responsible authorities produce and share key data; how the local community is involved in the work of the CSP; and how the CSP compares to other CSPs in region and similar areas.

3. That the Connected Communities Scrutiny Committee appraises the CSP documents provided accompanying this report to inform discussion on the 13 February 2023.
4. This scrutiny exercise appraises the effectiveness of the CSP. Herefordshire Council is one of 5 equal responsible authorities that sit on the CSP Board.

### **Community impact**

5. In accordance with the adopted code of corporate governance, Herefordshire Council is committed to promoting a positive working culture that accepts, and encourages constructive challenge, and recognises that a culture and structure for scrutiny are key elements for accountable decision making, policy development and review. Topics selected for scrutiny should have regard to what matters to residents.
6. The Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership has remit to collectively tackle crime and disorder in Herefordshire, including anti-social behaviour and illicit substance misuse. The CSP also has a requirement to reduce re-offending in Herefordshire and to commission domestic homicide reviews.

### **Environmental impact**

7. Whilst this is a standard meeting and will have minimal environmental impacts, consideration has been made to minimise waste and resource use in line with the council's Environmental Policy.
8. Whilst carrying out their function and statutory duties all member agencies of the Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership will have due regard to reducing their environmental impact.

### **Equality duty**

9. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:  
  
A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to –
  - a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
  - b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
  - c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
10. The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires consideration as to how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that public authorities are paying 'due regard' in decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services.

### **Resource implications**

11. The costs of the work of the committee will have to be met within existing resources.

### **Legal implications**

12. The Council is required to deliver a community safety scrutiny function in line with the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

## Risk management

13.

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
There is a reputational risk to the council if the scrutiny function does not operate effectively.	The arrangements for this committee mitigate this risk.

## Consultees

14. Not applicable - although Mr John Campion, West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner, and his representative has been invited to attend this scrutiny committee as a guest of the HCSP Board.

## Appendices

15. The following papers have been submitted in support of the Scrutiny presentation:
- Appendix A Scrutiny report for the Connected Communities Scrutiny Committee
  - Appendix B Summary presentation
  - Appendix C Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership Strategy 2021/2024
  - Appendix D Herefordshire Community Safety Partnership Structure Diagram

## Background papers

None identified.