

C. Community Safety Forum

The purpose of the Community Safety Forum includes the following functions:-

- Providing a place where key voluntary, independent and statutory agencies who play a significant role in the City in reducing crime and disorder and improving safety and quality of life, can work together, and develop their shared expertise and good practice;
- Involving Members in that process (the Forum is chaired by a Member of the Cabinet) and ensuring that key decisions which affect the Council as a whole are referred to the appropriate decision-making body for discussion and approval;
- Enabling consultation between residents, the Police Authority and police and overseeing consultation arrangements which are required to take place every three years to develop the priorities for inclusion within the Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy. Membership of the Community Safety Forum includes a number of organisations, each of whom represent and involve significant communities of interest or residents in neighbourhoods;
- Referring matters to the Cabinet Member for Environment, the Cabinet, or the Environment and Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny Committee as appropriate, either because they have significance for the Council's duties as a whole or for decision making;
- Profiling the work of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership in order to assist in reducing crime and fear of crime.

Membership shall be determined by the Cabinet following advice from the Governance Committee and be drawn from the police, local authority and the local community. The current membership includes: the Police 4; Age Concern; Housing Area Panels 2; Brighton & Hove Business; Crime Reduction Partnership; Federation of Disabled People; B&H PCT; Sussex Police, Independent Advisory Group; Brighton & Hove Mediation Service; British Transport Police; Coalition for Youth; Domestic Violence Forum; East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service; Hangleton & Knoll Project; Sussex Probation Service 2; Hove YMCA; Community & Voluntary Sector Forum; Older Peoples Council 2; Racial Harassment Forum; St James' Street; Community Safety Group; Victim Support; Whitehawk Community Project; Women's Refuge Project; Spectrum; Neighbourhood Watch; Audit Commission; Other ITA invitees; Local Action Teams.

The Terms of Reference

1. To be the forum for the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership and enable the constituent members to jointly develop best practice to reduce crime and disorder and improve community and public safety (in accordance with the Crime and Disorder Act 1998);
2. To support constituent members in their delivery of initiatives to reduce crime and improve community safety;
3. To fulfil the requirements for consultation in relation to matters to and from the Police Authority for the purposes of section 96 of the Police Act 1996. (The Act states that each Police Authority is required to make arrangements for consultation with the community in its area about policing issues. The actual arrangements to be agreed with the Police Authority);
4. To receive reports from the Police Authority, in particular the reports of their regular meetings and subject specific meetings;
5. To receive reports from the meetings of the Fire Authority for the purposes of information and to enable discussion and feedback on those items which affect the partners in the Community Safety Forum and Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership;
6. To receive and consider the Crime and Disorder Audit (every three years) and to make recommendations on its findings for the purpose of identifying priorities for action;
7. To oversee consultation arrangements with local communities and communities of interest with a view to being satisfied that consultation is inclusive, enables wide participation and that community priorities are reflected in the identification of priorities within the Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategies and work programmes of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership. The detailed arrangements to be agreed with the Police Authority;
8. To approve the crime and safety priorities identified for action in the three year Strategy and the action plans which set out the work which will be implemented over the three years to achieve those priorities;
9. To regularly receive information about the implementation and progress of the Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy;
10. To contribute to the development of the Youth Justice Plan and to receive reports from the Youth Offending Team about the delivery of the Plan and progress against national and local performance measures;

11. To make recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Environment, and if appropriate, to the Cabinet , in relation to matters that require council decisions and where there are links with other strategic priorities of the Council;
12. To refer matters that are the function of a Crime and Disorder Committee to the Environment and Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny Committee in accordance with section 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006.
13. To publicise the work of the Forum and of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership in order to help reduce crime and fear of crime and improve safety.

