

Ideas for Overview & Scrutiny – Scoping Paper - Appendix 2

Title	Community Safety Forum (CSF)
Summary of Issue	<p>To evaluate the effectiveness of the CSF and its achievements. Its two core functions are consultation/engagement and the community safety partnership link with the democratic process.</p> <p>A review could also look at how successful we are at tackling community safety issues locally. These are the responsibility of a number of agencies as outlined below.</p> <p>This could be expanded and linked to changes to police accountability with the introduction of Police & Crime Commissioners. A wider review could then look at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effectiveness of CSF • Scrutiny arrangements of C&D issues locally
Request originator	Cllr Cobb. Supported by Cllrs Cox & Wealls
Lead officers	Linda Beanlands
Relevant Committee Chair notified	Cllr Ben Duncan
Relevant legislation/ summary of most recent legislative changes	Police Reform & Social Responsibility Act 2011 Police & Justice Act 2005
Policy context/ summary of most recent policy changes	<p>The purpose of the Community Safety Forum is to provide 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.</p> <p>It brings together Members, residents and key agencies and helps to develop the Community Safety and Crime Reduction Strategy. The Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership is ultimately responsible for the CSCRS.</p> <p>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.</p>
Pre-decision (Yes/No)	No
Committee Work	None

Programme (date & link)	
Key issues	<p>Brighton & Hove community safety/community safety governance and partnership arrangements are somewhat complex. All of the following have responsibility in this area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy & Resources Committee • Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership • Community Safety Partnership • Crime & Disorder Scrutiny Committee (OSC) • Police Authority – to be replaced by the Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) • Police & Crime Panel (currently in shadow form) <p>The introduction of Police & Crime Commissioners (PCC) provides an opportunity to review some of the existing mechanisms through which community safety issues are addressed.</p> <p>The PCC will be responsible for policing across Sussex, setting the police budget and having responsibility for elements of the community safety budget too. They are to be held accountable by the Police & Crime Panel (PCP), upon which the council has two members. Consideration could be given as to how the city wishes to scrutinise the work of the PCC beyond the role of the PCP.</p> <p>The council has a duty, in partnership with others, to reduce crime and disorder. This is undertaken through the Crime & Disorder Partnership.</p> <p>The council is required to have a crime & disorder scrutiny committee, currently OSC, to scrutinise the Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership.</p> <p>There exists a protocol between the CSF & the C&S Committee which sets out which body should address issues. The current version of the protocol gives primacy to the CSF. It has not been updated since the move to a committee system.</p>
Focus	<p>The review could either be a narrow piece focusing on the work of the CSF or be expanded to look at community safety issues more generally and look at wider issues relating to community safety engagement and accountability.</p>

Performance data (BHLIS/PPP/ Inspection reports)	<p>There are a number of community safety related targets in the City Performance Plan and the council's Corporate Plan. These were all reported to Policy & Resources Committee on July 12th 2012 and are available here http://present.brighton-hove.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=689&MID=4315</p> <p>The 2011 – 2014 Community Safety Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy is on the 'Safe in the City' website. http://www.safeinthecity.info/files/2011-14%20Community%20Safety,%20Crime%20Reduction%20and%20Drugs%20Strategy%20-%201st%20revision.pdf</p>
Key partners	All Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership members, LATs, PCC, etc
Possible outcomes	Recommendations for improved structures/ways of working re community safety partnership & scrutiny.
Timetable	To start spring 2013 once the PCC has been in post for a while.
Panel/workshop/referral	Three Member panel
Co-option(?)	No

