

Community Safety
25/11/09

HORIZON SCANNING

1. Policing White Paper

A new Policing White Paper will be released in December. This follows on from the Louise Casey & Sir Ronnie Flanagan Reviews around the link between Neighbourhood Management & Neighbourhood Policing. This will include looking at how local authority strategies are aligned to policing priorities.

2. Confidence Agenda

Meeting the Policing Pledge and improving confidence levels will be under the spotlight in the next 12 months. This means SYP will need to increase work to target the media through proactive reporting and using other social marketing techniques to promote the work being done in York.

3. Anti-Social Behaviour

There is currently a big focus on anti-social behaviour with the announcement of funding for some cities (York included) and interest from the Home Office on how partnerships deal with ASB. Recent queries have included information on how CDRPs deal with breaches.

4. Violence against women and girls

This is a growing agenda with the announcement of an education package for age 5+ in two years time around violence toward women and girls and domestic abuse. Within this, is also the issue of honour killings (there are two investigations in North Yorks) and how that sits within our DV strategy.

5. Problem Solving

The Home Office/ACPO are currently looking at the issue of problem solving and use of the National Intelligence Model and will be developing work around how partnerships engage in this process. This will include the roll out of further guidance through Government Offices.

6. Working with the Third Sector & use of volunteers

Again this is a growing area of interest given that the majority of community safety "customers" will have had some contact with a voluntary organisation. Also there is drive within the Policing White Paper to increase the use of volunteers including neighbourhood watch.

7. Improvements to the working arrangements of the DAT/CDRP

Following the North Yorkshire review, the review of service provision and the DAT needs assessment, this item is still high on the local (sub-regional) agenda in terms of how York takes forward its plans, splits from county and improves performance

8. **Alcohol Agenda**

Tackling alcohol related violence linked to the night time economy remains a national, regional and local priority. This includes the levels of alcohol treatment provision and how this is affected by the voluntary status of many service providers within the current economic climate.

ISSUES REQUIRING CONSIDERATION/FURTHER WORK

1. **Capacity**

There will be areas of the Policing White Paper which will impact on Community Safety Partnerships and the way in which they work. The focus on ASB and the work required around the confidence agenda will all result in increased workloads. Similarly the increased workload under DV through focusing more broadly on violence against women and girls will carry an increase workload. SYP currently has 10 members of staff. Most of this team are specialists performing a very specific role. There is very little resilience and no scope for expansion given that budgets have remained largely static for 10 years.

Are we making best use of volunteers? Is there scope to improve existing structures eg. Neighbourhood Watch? Could we increase capacity into the SYP team through using volunteers?

2. **Contribution of partners**

Currently, the only partners contributing to SYP in either funding or staff are North Yorkshire Police, City of York Council and the North Yorkshire Police Authority. Is there scope to look at the contribution made to community safety by each of the partners and whether or not capacity could be increased by broadening the extent of partner contributions?

3. **Alcohol funding/data**

There is no national funding stream available to tackle alcohol related crime and disorder other than through ABG. Is the service provision in York sufficient, what is required to increase capacity within the support services and is there scope for other partners eg. PCT to assist? Also, data from A&E is still unavailable. Is there scope to improve data capture methods and ensure that data is available to the analyst to provide a more complete picture of the extent of the problem?