

Brief for Scrutiny

<p>Topic to be Scrutinised</p> <p>The Police Reform & Social Responsibility Act, in terms of interpretation, implementation and evaluation – together with other related reforms to the Community Safety/Public Protection regime at the national level.</p>
<p>Questions to be Addressed</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What areas are covered by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011? 2. What impact do the reforms and other changes contained within the Act potentially have on the work done under the heading of Community Safety/Public Protection? 3. What factors need to be considered in analysing the proposed impact of these reforms and what are the key drivers which underpin this legislation? 4. What are the options for delivery of services potentially affected by these reforms? 5. What other areas of change will impact on Community Safety/Public Protection and which are not covered by the Act or any of its related documents or schedules?
<p>Outcomes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A clear understanding of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, including its main proposals and the factors which underpin the Act, its ongoing development and its implementation. 2. An appreciation of the key changes proposed by the Act, including the introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners and how this new role will affect the work done in the Borough in Community Safety/Public Protection terms, including the impact on levels of performance and crime statistics. 3. A clear understanding and appreciation of how these proposed changes will link in with existing Borough Council and partnership plans, including changes to the way licensing is undertaken. 4. An ability to investigate these areas of change and also to be in a position to be aware of further changes being proposed, together with changes brought about during implementation and adjustments made to proposals as a result. 5. To be aware of changes to funding as a result of the proposals set out in the Act and how these funding changes will impact both on existing areas of work and also planned additional areas of work under the Community Safety/Public Protection banners. 6. To suggest possible alternative approaches to these issues and also to recognise additional opportunities and develop ways to assist in realising these in the medium to long terms (including new ways of working both alone and in partnership with others).
<p>Background Materials</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Existing Community Safety Strategies, including the Borough's Alcohol

<p>Harm Reduction Strategy and other key documents</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 3. The existing Corporate Plan, Sustainable Community Strategy and other key documentation 4. Previous Cabinet and Scrutiny reports relating to Community Safety/Public Protection
<p>Evidence and Witnesses</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Representatives from partner organisations – e.g. Staffordshire Police 2. Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Safer & Stronger Communities 3. Other Cabinet Members 4. Relevant Heads Of Services & Business Managers 5. EMT 6. Offices from Business Improvement & Partnerships 7. Other local authorities and local government agencies (where relevant)
<p>Method of Scrutiny</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It is suggested that the role of the Cleaner, Greener and Safer Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee is to continue its existing role in terms of scrutiny, but receive updates on progress of the Act and related developments 2. The Scrutiny Committee may wish to examine this Brief and suggest particular areas of focus, which can be progressed through a Task and Finish Group, if the Committee so wishes
<p>Timetable</p> <p>Start date: initial brief to the Cleaner, Greener and Safer Communities O & S Committee – 9th November 2011</p> <p>Update on the Act and its implementation to Cleaner, Greener, Safer O & S Committee – 29th February 2012</p> <p>Progress reports – to be arranged</p>
<p>Constraints</p> <p>Act has already been passed, although many of the detailed areas of reform still to be worked through. Police & Crime Commissioners will be elected in Nov 2012.</p>
<p>Members to Undertake the Scrutiny</p> <p>Members of the Cleaner, Greener, and Safer Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee</p>
<p>Support</p> <p>Chief Executive EMT Head of Business Improvement & Partnerships Partnerships Manager/Community Safety Manager Other Heads of Service & Business Managers</p>

Newcastle Borough Council Corporate Plan Priority area(s)

- Creating a cleaner, safer and sustainable Borough
- Creating a Borough of opportunity
- Creating a healthy and active community
- Transforming our Council to achieve excellence

CfPS Objectives:

- Provides and critical friend challenge to executive policy makers and decision makers
- Enables the voice and concerns of the public to be heard
- Is carried out by independent governors who lead and own the scrutiny role
- Drives improvement in public services

Brief Approved by Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

Signed

Date