

Agenda Item	5(a)
Report No	CIA/16a/18

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Committee: City of Inverness Area Committee

Date: 31 May 2018

Report Title: Inverness Community Safety Partnership

Report By: Joint Report by Inverness City Area Manager and Area Commander, (Highland and Islands Division, Police Scotland), Inverness

1. Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report summarises the activities of the Inverness Community Safety Partnership (ICSP) since it last reported on 2016 activity to Committee in February 2017.

2. Recommendations

2.1 Members are asked to:

- i. note the work of ICSP for 2017;
- ii. endorse the work of the Operation Respect Daytime Group; and
- iii. Note that with the formation of the local community partnership, the governance, tasking delivery and accountability will be enhanced if aligned to the Inverness community partnership. Whilst a formal approach to the chair of the said partnership will be required early indications are that this approach will be well received. The Inverness City Area Committee will continue to receive an annual update on the work of the Inverness Community Safety Partnership in addition to any updates as part of regular Police and Fire Scrutiny reports.

3. Background

3.1 The Inverness Community Safety Partnership (ICSP) was formed in January 2011 with the aim of overseeing the activity of Community Safety initiatives across the city.

3.2 The partners involved now include

- Highland Council
- Police Scotland
- N.H.S Highland
- Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
- Inverness Business Improvement District (BID)
- Inverness Drug and Alcohol Forum
- Apex Highland
- Inverness Street Pastors
- Highland Crimestoppers

3.3 The Partnership has also developed links with the following organisations - Scottish Prison Service, Signpost Highland, Eden Court and New Start Highland.

3.4 Cllr Janet Campbell is the representative of the City Area Committee on the Partnership and acts as a key link between the community and the partnership in passing comment and feedback.

3.5 The ICSP Mission Statement is

'Working in partnership, to create an environment where our communities and visitors will remain safe and reassured.'

3.6 The original aims/ priorities of the ICSP were aligned to Highland's Single Outcome Agreement; the community plan between statutory agencies and The Scottish Government. The Single Outcome Agreement has now been replaced by the Highland Outcome Improvement Plan and the aims of the partnerships are to be reviewed within this new framework.

3.7 The partnership fits with the objectives of the Community Empowerment Act 2015, in respect of enabling public sector agencies and third sector organisations to work collaboratively in their support of common goals.

Core activities of the ICSP are as follows;

- it has tactical oversight over all Community Safety initiatives that may be undertaken by any other partner agencies within the boundaries of the geographical remit of the City of Inverness Area Committee.
- supports Safer Highland in relation to all Community Safety / Business Crime initiatives
- the formulation of objectives to develop Community Safety / Business Crime initiatives on an annual basis
- where practicable to assist with the delivery of Community Safety initiatives

- promotion of good practice and making best use of funding Opportunities

4. Progress in 2017

4.1 Following partnership working with relevant agencies, through the ICSP, progress was made as follows;

- Liaison with Inverness DWP Universal Credit Representatives to give ICSP Members a greater understanding of the Universal Credit Scheme and how it works, given it being piloted in Inverness and rolled out across the Highlands as part of the HM Government policy to introduce the scheme UK wide.
- The continued provision of support to and links with the Persistent Offender Project which had been granted Agency and financial support for a further year following the successful pilot initiative. On average there are 20 persons being assisted through the Project at any given time.
- Partnership to the Community Mental Health Triage Initiative was expanded to all year round whereby MH Professionals at New Craigs will be available to Police via telephone for advice, guidance and possible admissions when dealing with vulnerable persons in the Community.
- SFRS have re-energised their Fire Referral Service in partnership with Police Scotland, Social Services and other Agencies who interface with vulnerable households in an attempt to reduce fires and deaths in homes of vulnerable persons and families.
- Continued provision of support to the Community Drugs/Alcohol referral pilot within Police Scotland Inverness
- Improved links to the third sector agencies and groups supporting vulnerable people within the City, raising awareness amongst Member Agencies on the various referral pathways
- Continued provision of support to the HMO (City Centre) Police Liaison Group, a group attended by Council Enforcement Officers from Environmental Health and other ICSP Representatives who retain a professional interest in this matter
- Partnership Engagement with Police Scotland regarding City Centre Policing issues resulting in significant increase and remodelling of the Policing capacity and capability within the City Centre.
- Support given to the NHS appointment of a Nurse for Homelessness operating across the City from Osprey House, Raigmore. This resource would now be a regular attendee at the HMO Meetings and will be liaising with all relevant Agencies and partner organisations in her role.
- Police and NHS have now amalgamated Drug Trend Bulletins into a unified document that better provides collated information on Drug Trends and Patterns affecting the Highlands & Islands. There is now a Webpage and Spreadsheet maintained for this purpose which can be accessed by relevant the Agencies.

- Continued support of the fortnightly Multi-Agency Tasking Group – Operation Respect Daytime Group. This tasking group makes use of the ICSP partners to deliver a programme of work with resources being directed to take action on a number of issues within the city centre such as
 - Anti-Social Behaviour with regard to City Centre persistent offenders
 - Development of environmental solutions to Anti-social behaviour issues
 - Support of and involvement in Operation Respect Summertime 2017
- The Partnership continued to support the annual winter Operation Respect Festive Initiative for 2017 – The previously submitted, Operation Respect Festive Period Evaluation Report gives an appraisal of this year's operation and the benefits achieved.
- Continued support of measures, including establishment of Cold Call Control Zones, to combat consumer detriment, and protect especially vulnerable individuals from criminal activity associated with Doorstep Crime /Cold Calling.
- Continued support and Agency/Organisational involvement in receiving Naloxone Intranasal Training delivered by N.H.S. Drug & Alcohol Recovery Service

5. Work in Progress for 2018/19

5.1 Key areas of activity are currently being progressed through the work of the ICSP:

- ICSP have embarked on a significant review of its Constitutional Terms of Reference, Organisational and Hierarchical Reporting Structures, Strategic Objectives and Action Planning to better align with current Highland Community Planning Partnership Board, The Inverness Community Partnership, The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act, and the Highland and Local Outcome Improvement Plans arising therefrom.
- The longstanding Review of Public Space CCTV continues with Police Scotland, Highland Council and Enigma in discussions as to a way forward to maximise the greatest potential for all Agencies from existing disparate systems that exist, and to provide improved monitoring arrangements within the scope of the financial envelope available.
- Support provided to other Third Sector Bodies such as Inverness Foodstuffs, Third Sector Hub and New Start Highland initiatives and projects.

5.2 There are clear opportunities through this work outlined above to contribute to the Locality plan priorities of the Inverness Community Partnership with the aim of addressing poverty and inequality. Progress on these areas of work and potential outcomes will be reported back to the City of Inverness Area Committee at a future date and a report will also be considered by the Council's Poverty and Inequality Working Group.

6. New Governance Arrangements

6.1 The ICSP has reported annually to the City of Inverness Area Committee or to the former City Committee, since 2011. In October 2016, the Council and its partners agreed a new Community Partnership framework to support delivery of the requirements of the Community Empowerment Act. The Inverness Community Partnership was established in December 2016 and since then, key themes have been pursued involving the preparation of;

- An Adults Plan
- A Children's Plan and
- The first Locality Plan (for Merkinch)

6.2 This work will link in with the work of the ICSP to varying degrees. Many of the links will be practical where the ICSP can provide the expertise to resolve issues and support /lead projects and initiatives to help deliver against the priorities of the Inverness Community Partnership. With the formation of the local community partnership, the governance, tasking delivery and accountability will be enhanced if aligned to the Inverness community partnership. Whilst a formal approach to the chair of the said partnership will be required early indications are that this approach will be well received. The Inverness City Area Committee will continue to receive an annual update on the work of the Inverness Community Safety Partnership in addition to any updates as part of regular Police and Fire Scrutiny reports.

7. Implications

7.1 Resource - The activities detailed in this report are funded through existing partner contributions to the ICSP.

7.2 Legal – None

7.3 Community (Equality, Poverty and Rural) – The ICSP Partners ensure that resources are targeted at those most in need and will support the delivery of locality plans and the priorities of the Inverness Partnership.

7.4 Climate Change / Carbon Clever – None

7.5 Risk – None

7.6 Gaelic – All policies regarding use of the Gaelic language will be adhered to.

Designation: Inverness City Area Manager

Designation: Area Commander, Inverness

Date: 16 May 2018

Author: David Haas & Chief Inspector Colin Gough

Background Papers: