Scrutiny Committee - 17 February 2017

41 Lewes District Community Safety Partnership Annual Report

The Committee considered Report No 39/17 which detailed the Council's Community Safety Partnership Annual Report.

The Cabinet Member for Customers and Partners introduced the Report. He explained that the information detailed in paragraphs 14 to 14.6 on page 8 of the Report was no longer accurate, as he had been informed the day before the meeting that Wealden District Council (WDC) had decided not to continue to participate in the 'soft merger' of Community Safety Partnerships (CSP) in conjunction with Eastbourne Borough Council and Lewes District Council (LDC),.

The Cabinet Member brought the Committee's attention to the resource implications as set out in paragraphs 13 to 13.2 on page 8 of the Report. He explained that the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) maintained direct control over determining the budget allocation to local CSPs, and that this financial year the PCC had allocated £21.9k to the Lewes District Community Safety Partnership (LDCSP). The Committee queried how much was left in the PCC fund and how much had been approved, as it had queried at a previous meeting in 2016.

The Head of Business Strategy and Performance informed the Committee that out of the £505K in the PCC fund, LDC had been allocated £21K. She explained, however, that LDC also had a reserve fund of approximately £51K which was set aside in order to allocate funds for projects across the District.

The Community Safety Officer explained that he was in the process of establishing a Road Safety Action Group for the District which included representation from East Sussex Fire and Rescue, Sussex Police and East Sussex County Council. The aim of the Group was to identify and work to address problems relating to road safety.

Members of the Committee requested that they be put on the distribution list for communications and updates from the LDC Road Safety Action Group. They further requested broader publication by Officers.

Resolved:

41.1 That the achievements and activities of the Lewes District Community Safety Partnership during 2016/17 and future risks/opportunities to performance as set out in Report No 39/17, be noted:

- 41.2 That the Community Safety Action Plan for 2016/17 which will be adopted by the Director of Service Delivery under delegated authority as set out in Report No 39/17, be endorsed;
- 41.3 That the levelling off of crime within performance years 2015/16 and 2016/17 and the favourable comparison of crime levels in our Most Similar Group as set out in Report No 39/17, be noted;
- 41.4 That the Cabinet Member for Customers and Partners, in their capacity as the Council's representative on the Community Safety Partnership, be asked to give further consideration to ways in which the Community Safety Grants programme could be promoted; and

41.5 That the Cabinet Member for Customer and Partners, in their capacity as the Council's representative on the Community Safety Partnership, be asked to promote the establishment of the Road Safety Group to ensure that those who wish to participate and/or feed in their views, knowledge and experience are able to do so.

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