

Swindon Borough Council

Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Thursday, 28 June 2012

Committee Room 6, Civic Offices
(Anticipated meeting room)

At 6.00 p.m.

Conservative Councillors

Brian Ford (Chair)
Alan Bishop
Toby Elliott
Mary Friend
John Haines
Colin Lovell
Nick Martin

Labour Councillors

Robert Wright (Vice-Chair)
Abdul Amin
John Ballman
Joe Tray
Julie Wright

Liberal Democrat Councillors

Ann Richards

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AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Minutes** (Pages 1 - 2)
To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd March 2012
- 3. Declarations of Interest**
Members are reminded that at the start of the meeting they should declare any known interests in any matter to be considered, and also during the meeting if it becomes apparent that they have an interest in the matters being discussed.
- 4. Public Question Time**
See explanatory note below. Please phone the Committee Officer whose name and number appears at the top of this agenda if you need further guidance).
- 5. Work programme - Wiltshire Police Presentation (oral report)**

6. Work Programme - Cabinet Member for a Safer and Stronger Borough
(Pages 3 - 30)

7. Work Programme Report (Pages 31 - 36)

Date of Despatch: 20 June 2012

Key:

CE	-	Chief Executive
BDL	-	Board Director Localities
BDTSP	-	Board Director Transformation and Strategic Projects
BDC	-	Board Director Commissioning (DCS/ DASS)
BDS	-	Board Director Service Delivery
BDFRB	-	Board Director Finance, Revenues, Benefits and Property
STPD	-	Stronger Together Programme Manager
DPH	-	Director of Public Health
DLDS	-	Director of Law and Democratic Services
HIA	-	Head of Internal Audit

Public Question Time - Swindon Borough Council is committed to increasing its accountability to the public and to promoting active citizenship. Up to 15 minutes will be allowed at the start of all Council meetings for questions to the Chair from members of the public about the work of the Committee (except for confidential matters and specific planning applications). Questions must be relevant, clear and concise. Because of time constraints Public Question Time is not an opportunity to make speeches or statements. Prior notice of a question to the Director of Law and Democratic Services is desirable - particularly if detailed background information is needed.

Access Arrangements – The Venue is wheelchair accessible and an infrared receiver hearing system is provided. If you would wish to attend the meeting but have any special requirement to enable you to do so please contact the Committee Clerk above, as soon as possible prior to the date of the meeting.

If you would like to receive any of the pages contained in this agenda in a larger print size please contact the Committee Officer whose name appears on the first page of this agenda.

**Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Terms of Reference**

To fulfil all the functions of an overview and scrutiny committee as they relate to –

- the review, scrutiny and development of policy recommendations;
- the management of performance,
- the monitoring of progress against corporate priorities and
- the formulation of advice for the Cabinet, Council and other partners and stakeholders.

To have specific responsibility for (but not limited to): -

- the scrutiny of the Safe and Stronger Block of the Swindon Local Area Agreement;

- Community and Neighbourhoods;
- Crime and Disorder;
Environment and Streetscene.

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**SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

TUESDAY, 27 MARCH 2012

PRESENT:- Councillors Kevin Parry (Chair), Robert Wright (Vice-Chair), Mavis Childs, Rochelle Russell and Peter Stoddart

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Wayne Crabbe.

63. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

64. Public Question Time

There were no public questions.

65. Response from Lead Member - Domestic Violence

The Cabinet Member for Customer Services and a Safer & Stronger Borough, Councillor Lovell, submitted a report concerning his response to this Committee's review into Tackling Domestic Abuse, as recommended by Cabinet at its meeting on the 19th October 2011.

Councillor Lovell took the Committee through the main areas highlighted in his report, together with the recommendations.

Some members of the Committee and Attendees related their personal experiences with Domestic Violence.

Resolved – (1) That the report be noted and Councillor Lovell be thanked for his attendance.

(2) That this Committee continue to keep Domestic Abuse as a high profile.

(3) That the Lead Member be invited to a future meeting of this Committee in at least six months' time.

66. Anti-Social Behaviour - Housing (verbal)

This item was withdrawn

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Author: Overview & Scrutiny
Wards: All Wards
Locality Affected: All Locality Area's
Parishes Affected: All Parish Area's

1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1 This report sets out the priority areas for the Cabinet Portfolio of a Safer and Stronger Borough for 2012/2013, in addition the report sets out any upcoming policy reviews or required policy changes and makes suggestions for topics to be included in the Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programme for 2012/2013.
- 1.2 Each Overview and Scrutiny Committee is required to have a work programme that details the activities that it will be undertaking during the municipal year.
- 1.3 The work programme details the various topics and issues that each Committee intends to look into during the coming year with the aim of producing evidence based recommendations intended to provide service improvements for Cabinet and external agencies/bodies to consider.
- 1.4 The report is required in order to provide members of the Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee with details of the Safer and Stronger Borough Portfolio.

2 Recommendations

The Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 Note the report and presentation of the Cabinet Member for a Safer and Stronger Borough and take on board any suggestions made by the Cabinet member for inclusion in the Committees work programme for the coming year.
- 2.2 Once a work programme has been agreed the Overview and Scrutiny Officer will make the necessary arrangements for the work programme to be carried out.

3 Detail

Developing an Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme

- 3.1 Each Overview and Scrutiny Committee is required to have a work programme that details the activities that it will be undertaking during the municipal year.

- 3.2 The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and the Police and Justice Act 2006 have presented the Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny with a role, remit and powers regarding crime and disorder matters.
- 3.3 The Committee has within its remit the opportunity to scrutinise the Community Safety Partnership, which is made up of the Council, the Police, Primary Care Trust, Fire Authority and Police Authority. The Community Safety Partnership has a duty to cooperate with the Committee and is required to 'have regard' to any recommendations made by the Committee.
- 3.4 The Committee has within its remit scrutiny and overview of crime and disorder matters. This means that the Committee can review crime and disorder topics, to assist it in fulfilling this function the Committee can require information from the Chief Officer of Police and Police Authority, as well as other partner authorities and can request the attendance of the Chief Officer of Police at meetings.
- 3.5 The Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee is encouraged to be mindful of its role and remit when considering a work programme for the 2012/13 Municipal Year.

The Cabinet Member for a Safer and Stronger Borough

- 3.6 It is important that Overview and Scrutiny adds value to the work of the Council and its partner agencies, and produces tangible outcomes for local people that result in real service improvements. Selecting the right topics is crucial to ensure that scrutiny will be effective.
- 3.7 The Cabinet portfolio of a Safer and Stronger Borough will play a key role in the work of the Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Committee is able to hold to account the decisions and the performance of the Cabinet Member for a Safer and Stronger Borough. In addition the Committee is able to make evidence based recommendations for service and policy improvement to the Cabinet regarding topics and services that fall within the remit of the Cabinet Member for a Safer and Stronger Borough.
- 3.8 In order to help the Scrutiny Committee select the right topics for the work programme the Cabinet Member for a Safer and Stronger Borough will attend the first Scrutiny Committee meeting of the year as her portfolio is directly relevant to the remit of the Scrutiny Committee. The Cabinet Member will outline her portfolio priorities for the coming year, highlight any areas that require policy changes or review and may make suggestions for inclusion in the Scrutiny Committee work programme.
- 3.9 Members of the Scrutiny Committee are encouraged to work with Cabinet in the best interests of the Borough and to take into account the priorities and suggestions of Cabinet when considering the contents for their work programme.

4. Safer and Stronger Borough Portfolio

4.1 The Cabinet Member for a Safer and Stronger Borough is Councillor Vera Tomlinson.

4.2 Areas that fall within the remit of the portfolio of a Safer and Stronger Borough are as follows:

- Police Authority/ Police and Crime Commissioner Liaison
- Community Safety Partnership
- Environmental and Public Protection Services
- Gypsies, Travellers and unauthorised encampments
- Reducing Drugs, Alcohol and Substance misuse
- Reducing Domestic Abuse

4.3 All of the above portfolio areas fall within the remit of the Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

4.4 Police Authority/ Police and Crime Commissioner Liaison

Overview

4.4.1 The post of Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) has been created under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. This is a directly elected post. Elections will be held on Thursday 15th November 2012. The person duly elected will take post on 22nd November.

4.4.2 The PCC will have control of Police budgets (including setting the precept), set policing priorities and will appoint and discharge a Chief Constable without recourse to any other person.

4.4.3 The PCC will have a scrutiny body in the form of a Police and Crime Panel. They will review the decisions and actions of the Police and Crime Commissioner, but will not have any power of veto. The current system of Police Authorities will cease, with some of their roles being taken up by the Police and Crime Panel.

4.4.4 The Act identifies that the PCC will work with the Community Safety Partnership(s) (CSPs) for the Police Force area.

4.4.5 The level of direct support available to a PCC will ultimately be for the PCC to decide although they are required by law to have a chief executive and chief finance officer post. In the first instance however the PCC will inherit the existing staff who directly support the police authority. The current chief executive of the police authority will become the chief executive of the PCC's staff.

- 4.4.6 Unlike police authorities, PCCs will not be 'responsible authorities' under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, and hence will not be members of community safety partnerships. The statutory duties in the Crime and Disorder Act that apply to police authorities will not apply to PCCs. However, provisions in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act place a mutual duty on PCCs and responsible authorities in CSPs to cooperate to reduce crime, disorder and re-offending. There is also a similar reciprocal duty on the PCC and criminal justice bodies to cooperate.
- 4.4.7 The legislation requires the PCC to create a police and crime plan by the end of the financial year in which they are elected. For the first PCCs that means they will have to produce their plans by the end of March 2013. These plans will then last up to the end of the financial year containing the next election – potentially lasting therefore for five years and covering the period until March 2017.
- 4.4.8 The Wiltshire PCC will also have to appoint a new Chief Constable to replace Brian Moore.
- 4.4.9 CSPs, including ourselves, produce three-year rolling plans, refreshed annually. Ideally the PCC should refresh their own police and crime plan annually (this is permitted by the legislation) and the revised police and crime plan would then take account of changes in each CSP's plan. Our planning cycle is already aligned to the Police cycle, so this should prove to be relatively straightforward.
- 4.4.10 The requirement to help the PCC deliver local priorities means that there is a greater likelihood of crossover between PCCs and CSPs, more opportunity for joint working, and potentially, more opportunity for joint investment.

Priority Areas for the coming year

- 4.4.11 We have already drawn up a business plan that sets out the key actions for this year. It is important that we position ourselves so that we can inform the incoming PCC about the matters that are key to Swindon. We are very effective at driving partnership work to tackle local issues and need to ensure that our ability to do so is not adversely affected by the introduction of the PCC.

Budgets

- 4.4.12 The Drug Intervention Project (DIP) budget (currently £153,000.00) will become the responsibility of the PCC. The Home Office contribution to the CSP (currently £89,470) will also pass to the PCC. There is a possibility of seeing some of this money coming back to us if we can prove to the PCC that we

provide value for money and measurable results for the money involved.

Areas that may require Policy Changes or Review

- 4.4.13 There are no pressing issues on this front. We need to remain proactive and ensure that we tell our story, rather than rely on others who may not know the full picture, or have an agenda of their own, to tell our story for us.

4.5 Community Safety Partnership

Overview

- 4.5.1 The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is a statutory body established initially under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, which set out the requirement that Local Authorities, Police, Fire & Rescue and PCT establish a partnership body to deal with crime and disorder. Probation Service was identified as a statutory consultee to the partnership. The Police Reform Act 2002 brought drug and alcohol treatment services under the same banner and established Community Safety Partnerships as we now know them. Subsequent Acts and Statutory Instruments have further defined the role of the CSP including the Policing and Crime Act 2009 which made Probation a full member of the Partnership rather than simply a consultee.
- 4.5.2 The business of the Community Safety Partnership is governed by a number of routes. Tasking and project requests arise from local ASB multi-agency tasking groups, Police Sector Tasking meetings, Police Force Tasking meetings, National Treatment Agency Regional meetings, CSP Joint Commissioning Group Meetings and a number of other tactical level meetings. The direction of our work is steered by the Strategic Assessment, which is reviewed annually. Oversight and strategic direction is provided by the Safer and Stronger Executive Board and Overview and Scrutiny.
- 4.5.3 The work of the Community Safety Partnership covers crime reduction, domestic violence reduction, anti-social behaviour, drug & alcohol treatment services and health promotion.

Priority Areas for the Coming Year

- 4.5.4 The priorities for the coming year, set by the Safer & Stronger Executive Committee, are to concentrate on reducing offending and to reduce the harm caused by alcohol. The executive committee felt it was important to focus its collective resources on two priority areas, in which it can have a major impact. That said there is a work plan that addresses the wider range of work that the partnership will be doing and is based on the strategic assessment. A copy of this work plan is included.

4.5.5

In relation to the strategic priority area of reducing offending we have produced a strategic intent to reduce offending. A copy of this strategic intent is also attached. There are three main initiatives which contribute to delivering the strategic intent as well as a number of operational projects detailed in the work plan. The three initiatives are all overseen by the Swindon & Wiltshire Reducing Offending Strategic Board. These are:

- Implementation of the Integrated Offender Management Project
- Implementation of a coordinated, multi-level restorative justice regime and
- A project (currently being scoped) to build community support and resilience to reduce offending, to help build strong communities to prevent people entering into a criminal lifestyle and to build community responsibility to support offenders and would be offenders away from a criminal lifestyle.

4.5.6

To address tackling the harm caused by alcohol mis-use we have implemented a three year action plan and developed a project called Alcohol Support & Advice Project (ASAP)

It has been evidenced that factors associated with a detrimental outcome for alcohol misusers include having less social stability and support for example, those without jobs, families or stable housing, lacking a social network of non-drinkers, a family history of alcohol dependence, psychiatric comorbidity, multiple previous treatment episodes and history of disengagement from treatment.

ASAP has been designed to target the factors which are associated with detrimental outcomes for those who misuse alcohol and develop the kind of relationship that open people to change and address causes rather than symptoms. ASAP is rooted within Building Recovery in Communities; the national and local strategic priority for substance misuse.

ASAP is an innovative programme modelled on the success of other Ambassador and Champion projects to provide a signposting initiative for help, peer support, motivation and guidance from alcohol addiction; or help in recognising alcohol misuse and the impact it has on others, the community; and wanting to do something about it.

The programme will be run by people that are expert by their life experience and have dealt with their alcohol addiction, or are friends/family members, which put them in a unique position to encourage, help and support those going into and through their recovery journey.

The PCT & SBC have each invested £30,000 in ASAP. Wiltshire Police have been asked to match fund with £30,000. When the £90,000 investment is obtained ASAP will be piloted for 18 months.

The Alcohol Strategy and Action plans also included a review of alcohol treatment services. It had been highlighted that there was an unmet need in Swindon for a community based detoxification service.

In conjunction with the PCT QIPP Board we have identified £285,000 investment into developing the community based detoxification service.

The investment in this service has realised the opportunity to re-commission Swindon's alcohol services for efficiency and complete wrap round care providing a patient focused recovery service.

With agreement from the PCT Executive Board we have decided on the following implementation plan:

- Commissioning Lead: Swindon Borough Council
- Commissioning will follow Local Authority Processes
- The responsibility will be with Swindon Drug & Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) which has reporting lines through the Community Safety Partnership, Public Health and Children's and Adults Commissioning Directorate.
- The DAAT will contact SBC's Procurement Team to discuss processes required to re-commission Swindon's Alcohol Treatment Services.
- Detox Service Funds will need to be transferred from PCT to SBC Alcohol services budget line.
- Notice given to current providers in line with Terms & Conditions and establish TUPE rights. Work in conjunction with PCT.
- Initiate soft market testing to include best practice and affordability
- Establish panel to oversee contract provision decisions.
- More accurate timescales will be available once procurement are involved and notice periods are established. It is anticipated the tendering process is completed within the early part of FY 2013/14

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- 4.5.7 A further priority for this year is to implement the merger of Wiltshire Police's Community Safety function with that of the Council. We are currently working with the Police, but are being delayed by their Vision Wiltshire project before this can be implemented. We expect to have it in its place by the autumn and we hope that this will be the first stage of a more integrated approach to community safety from all the partners.

Budgets

- 4.5.8 Budgets in this area are complex and inter-related. Most of our external funding depends upon us demonstrating match funding and is tied to outcomes. In this operational year we have a budget of £3,209,769. £1,637,000 of this comes from the National Treatment Agency and is for adult drug and alcohol treatment services. SBC contribute £408,100, NHS Swindon contribute £690,647 and Police contribute £267,126.
- 4.5.9 Posts and delivery expenditure are matrix funded from these contributions in order that contributors can see match funded performance results.

Areas that may require Policy Changes or Review

- 4.5.10 There are two major legislative changes that we know will strike us this year. The first is the introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners and the second is the change in ASB legislation. Both of these will require us to be light on our feet and in a position to respond to significant changes quickly.
- 4.5.11 It is important that we position ourselves so that we can inform the incoming PCC about the matters that are key to Swindon. We are very effective at driving partnership work to tackle local issues and need to ensure that our ability to do so is not adversely affected by the introduction of the PCC.
- 4.5.12 Changes in ASB legislation will alter the way that we need to collect and present evidence to Courts. The types of Orders that we can obtain will change and we will need to ensure that changes are understood and well embedded in the team.
- 4.5.13 We are currently prototyping Neighbourhood Justice Panel, which enable local communities to address low level crime and disorder locally and agree how the matter should be dealt with. This, along

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Jodie Townsend, Direct Dial Telephone Number 01793 463109, jtownsend@swindon.gov.uk.

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with a number of other projects we are trying will facilitate a shift in ownership of the community from the “authorities” to local people.

4.6 Environmental and Public Protection Services

Overview

- 4.6.1 Environmental and Public Protection Services are essentially designed to protect the public from unfair, unsafe and hazardous trading practices and organised criminal activity. The service also protects people and the environment from man-made nuisance and pollution to maintain their health and well-being. This includes the following functions:
- 4.6.2 Trading Standards (Counterfeit goods, product safety, tackling rogue traders, Tobacco control (underage sales, illicit sales), dealing complex consumer cases, consumer credit, scams, misleading pricing, unfair trading practices, explosives, underage sales, buy with confidence)
- 4.6.3 Environmental Health (Food Safety (including scores on the doors), Health & Safety (including workplace accident investigation), dealing with food poisoning outbreaks and infectious disease, legionella and asbestos, private water supplies, Statutory Nuisance, air quality management, air pollution, drainage and dealing with filthy and verminous premises, accumulations, empty homes, pest control, residential safety and housing standards, littering, fly-tipping, fly posting, graffiti, municipal burials, contaminated land, abandoned shopping trolleys)
- 4.6.4 Planning Enforcement, dealing with unsightly or deteriorated buildings and land & Illegal advertising
- 4.6.5 Licensing (alcohol, entertainment, pets shops, dangerous animals, performing animals, animal boarding & breeding, gambling, explosives, house to house collections)
- 4.6.6 Animal health, stray dogs, dog fouling
- 4.6.7 Street-trading
- 4.6.8 Safety at Sports Grounds
Event safety (on SBC Land primarily)

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Jodie Townsend, Direct Dial Telephone Number 01793 463109, jtownsend@swindon.gov.uk.

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Priority Areas for the Coming Year

- 4.6.9 Development of 'Buy with Confidence' & implement 'Eat with Confidence'. Buy with confidence is a scheme which is run by Trading Standards departments across the South of England. It provides an assurance that the businesses in the scheme have been vetted by Trading Standards. WE have a good proportion of members but we want more in the scheme. It then gives our residents the option to use an assured business or chance their luck with one not in the scheme. Eat with Confidence aims to do the same with food businesses. We have the national hygiene rating scheme (Scores on the Doors), which provides residents with some information to help them make informed choices. We want to distinguish our very best food businesses and provide a simple way to identifying those who really care about their customers and want to provide safe food, with the best service.
- 4.6.10 Working with colleagues to develop 'Work Well Wessex' and 'Eat Well Wessex'. The aim of these initiatives is to work jointly across the unitary Authorities of Swindon, Wiltshire, Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol, South Gloucestershire and North Somerset councils in order to
- To support and equip individuals and businesses (SMEs) with the skills and knowledge to fulfil legislative requirements
 - To support economic growth, especially in small businesses, by ensuring a fair, responsible and competitive trading environment
 - To use our discretion on how the law is applied
 - To use our resources appropriately, ensuring resources are targeted at risk, ensuring that risk is managed properly and proportionately by organizations
 - To listen to businesses and adjust our support and work programmes accordingly
 - To use an evidence based approach to inform our work programmes

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Jodie Townsend, Direct Dial Telephone Number 01793 463109, jtowndsend@swindon.gov.uk.

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- To work in partnership to prevent death, injury and ill health
- Focused enforcement activity where businesses wilfully contravene legislation and seek to gain economic advantage as a result of the contravention and placing communities at risk

The aim of the partnership is to strike a balance between prosperity (jobs and growth) and protection of those in the workplace. The group is mindful that good regulation can support growth, as much as poor regulation hinders it. We understand that how regulation is delivered matters to business, particularly during these tough economic times. In addition we are looking at services which would enable us to share our resources in order to become more efficient.

- 4.6.10 Dog fouling, we are working with members and locality leads to develop community led solutions to dog fouling.
- 4.6.11 Reduce Litter and fly-tipping
- 4.6.12 The control of A boards (initially in the town centre); this approach will be developed with our businesses and the disability coalition to find a way that works for all.
- 4.6.13 To roll out the trade waste regulation (duty of care, carriers licensing etc) regime across all of Swindon Borough.
- 4.6.14 To improve the regime used to deal with noise from licensed premises; Fixed Penalties for Night Time Noise, Licence Reviews, Nuisance enforcement.
- 4.6.15 To maintain the network of CCTV cameras installed in graffiti/envirocrime hotspots, and to pursue those captured committing offences, in partnership with the Police.
- 4.6.16 To fully engage with the upcoming ASB regulatory change, identify opportunities for using new powers, and for greater joint working with CSP Team to best effect.

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Jodie Townsend, Direct Dial Telephone Number 01793 463109, jtownsend@swindon.gov.uk.

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- 4.6.17 To drive efficiencies in all case handling and administration procedures to free up Officer time to deal with core case work (use UniForm standard documents, widen 'paperless' processes, integrate IDOX EDMRS to best effect) and thus limit the negative effects of resource cuts.
- 4.6.18 Identify ways of leveraging in funds from other areas to finance enforcement/monitoring via Community Infrastructure Levy, Local Planning Charge, Night Time Noise Fixed Penalties etc.
- 4.6.19 Review, redesign and improve information relating to service area held on the web, and examine ways to improve complainant participation/self-help, as web manager resource becomes available.
- 4.6.20 Develop team members to competence across wider work areas to account for seasonal loads and projects in non-core work areas.
- 4.6.21 Grants
- 4.6.22 Continue discussions with potential Green Deal partners so that service area is in an informed position ready for the Government launch in Autumn of this year. As part of these discussions establish the Energy Companies Obligation (ECO) and determine what proportion of these funds will be available for Fuel Poverty work in addition to the Green Deal allocation.
- 4.6.23 Continue to deliver the Safe and Warm scheme and extend into the remaining prioritised areas i.e. Moredon, Western, Eastcott, St Phillip, St Margaret and Freshbrook & Grange Park. Investigate the potential replacement of current CERT (Carbon Emission Reduction Target) funding with ECO funding to secure the continued provision of this scheme.
- 4.6.24 Investigate and secure future funding sources for both the Safe and Warm scheme and the Affordable Warmth Co-Ordinator position (currently funded until May 2013).
- 4.6.25 Pest Control

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Jodie Townsend, Direct Dial Telephone Number 01793 463109, jtownsend@swindon.gov.uk.

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- 4.6.26 Maintain and develop partnerships with private Pest Control companies and Wiltshire Council to ensure that we continue to provide a competitively priced reactive pest control service within the stated response times.
- 4.6.26 Private Sector Housing
- Process all mandatory houses in multiple occupation (HMO) relicensing applications for relevant HMOs and formally pursue those failing to renew their licence as the remaining initial 5 year licences awarded in 2006/7 will be expiring this year.
 - Commission the Building Research Establishment to complete research into the Health Impact Assessment of the improvement works carried out by landlords in response to our enforcement activity.
 - To establish a volunteer scheme to offer temporary housing solutions for stray dogs

Budgets

- 4.6.27 The total expenditure for the services is £1.8 million of which £1.5 million is staffing costs. The services bring in an income of around £440,000, mainly (about a half) from licensing but also from grants and fee income from training, fixed penalty notices and pest control. The services account for around 2% of the council's budget.

Areas that may require Policy Changes or Review

- 4.6.28 Implementation of the events in Parks Strategy.
- 4.6.29 Giving good food businesses earned autonomy.
- 4.6.30 With approval of the cabinet member agree our approach to dealing with some complaint and areas of work, in order to reduce demand to better respond to those higher risk cases.
- 4.6.31 We currently do not have any provision in place to serve an out-of-hours Stop Notice for planning enforcement, should, for example, work begin to commence development for a traveller's camp on a farmer's field. The Council is particularly vulnerable to this before a Bank Holiday weekend.

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Jodie Townsend, Direct Dial Telephone Number 01793 463109, jtownsend@swindon.gov.uk.

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- 4.6.32 We are consulting on requiring all our enforcement officers to participate in the Out of Hours noise rota. In addition they will also be asked to support to Local Authority Liaison Officer role.
- 4.6.33 Potential changes to the legislation regulating Mobile Home sites for which we will need to make significant policy changes. There are significant legislative changes being proposed by DCLG. If implemented, the changes will introduce a yearly licence fee (currently no fee), a notice procedure for addressing licence contraventions (currently there is only the option of nothing or prosecution), ability for local authorities to charge for their activities and changes to the standard scale of fines (Level 5 to become limitless)

4.7 Gypsies, Travellers and unauthorised encampments

Overview

- 4.7.1 Whilst recognising the needs and concerns of the wider community, to ensure that a range of statutory and non-legislative responsibilities concerning Gypsies & Travellers (both residing in and visiting the Borough), are delivered through a breadth of services that are provided to the travelling community. These broadly include accommodation, health, welfare and education

Priority Areas for the Coming Year

- 4.7.2 The 37 year old Council owned and managed Gypsy and Traveller permanent residential caravan site at Hay Lane, has historically been subject to infra-structure problems relating to its foul and mains water services. The foul water system regularly experiences blockages and the mains water supply is currently experiencing unexplained leakage, at an estimated cost to the Council of £5,000 per annum. In partnership with SBC's Highways Projects, the Halcrow Group have recently been engaged to investigate these issues and provide the Council with their findings in the form of a condition survey, along with their detailed recommendations and the costs of the works required to remedy the problems whilst bringing the systems up to current day standards.

Budgets

- 4.7.3 There are four budgets relevant to this area:

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Jodie Townsend, Direct Dial Telephone Number 01793 463109, jtownsend@swindon.gov.uk.

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- The Hay Lane Travellers Site budget (which incorporates all the Traveller sections staff costs) has total projected costs of £140,500 and an income of £137,000.
- (One full time member of staff is employed within the Traveller Liaison Section and they have strategic and operational responsibility for all aspects of the service).
- A capital funds budget (secured from Government Office South West) in the sum of £293,000, for refurbishment works on the Hay Lane Travellers site.
- The Chiseldon Firs Transit Site budget has total projected costs of £9,700, with no income.
- The Unauthorised Traveller Encampments budget has total projected costs of £34,200, with no income.

Areas that may require Policy Changes or Review

4.7.4 Currently, there are no known issues that require or may require policy changes in the year 2013/13.

4.8 Reducing Drugs, Alcohol and Substance misuse

Overview

4.8.1 The current model of service delivery is based around the National Treatment Agencies (NTA) 'Models of Care'. This sets out a national framework for the commissioning of adult treatment for drug misuse and incorporated treatment effectiveness into service delivery.

4.8.2 The expectation was that this framework would be available in every part of England to meet the needs of local and diverse populations. Models of Care (MoC) is an integrated system developed around a four-tier model of drug treatment commissioning and provision. It encompassed a care pathway approach to 'route' service users through the tiers, to provide appropriate assessment and care planning and to care co-ordinate or manage the processes through treatments.

4.8.3 The introduction of the 2010 National Drug Strategy refocuses recovery as the preferred treatment method.

Current Swindon Treatment System Contract Structure

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Jodie Townsend, Direct Dial Telephone Number 01793 463109, jtownsend@swindon.gov.uk.

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- 4.8.4 The current contract structure commissions tier 3 and tier 2 services using two provider agencies. Tier 3 is provided by an NHS provider while the Tier 2 service is provided by a local third sector provider. Tier 4 inpatient services are currently commissioned by the DAAT by way of preferred provider agreements. Certain components of the treatment system sit outside the current contract structure and are purchased directly by the DAAT or by the PCT by way of locally enhanced service contracts.

Priority Area for the Coming Year - Swindon Adult Drug Treatment System Re - Design

- 4.8.5 The DAAT consulted widely on the re-design and have agreed to re-structure the design of the Swindon Treatment Service. To achieve the aims and objectives set out in the 2010 National Strategy a service redesign has been undertaken with a view to creating a Whole Systems Approach to delivering a drug treatment and recovery system.
- 4.8.6 This whole systems approach will have a single point of entry - The Intake Team. This service will provide Triage and Assessment, Initial Recovery Goal Setting, Case Management that develops, holds and reviews an individual's long term Recovery Plan. Intensive support will be offered for those at risk of dis-engagement. The Intake team will also provide an outreach service that will target; rough sleepers; priority offenders, younger users, treatment naive users and people with complex needs. For those who require clinical treatment to address drug and alcohol dependency issues a referral will be made to the clinical team. The clinical team will offer; Prescribing for opiate dependence - (reduction, detox and maintenance), Relapse prevention prescribing, Clinical Interventions for dependent stimulant use, Shared Care Service & GP Liaison, General Health Care Assessments, Dual diagnosis.
- 4.8.7 Perhaps the key to the process is the Recovery Team, a service that ensures a full recovery is sustained, this service will offer; Recovery Motivation (begins during Intake), Recovery Community" development, Education, Training & Employment, Mid-level Psycho-Social Interventions (PSIs), Group-work & Mutual Aid Groups, In-patient preparation and case management.
- 4.8.8 Funding Streams - Swindon's drug treatment budget 2012/13 is principally made up from the centrally allocated pooled treatment budget (PTB) - £1261000, the drug interventions programme (DIP)

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main grant - £153000, PCT mainstream allocation - £353,292 and a LA allocation - £246440, Alcohol Community Fund - £90000, Alcohol Brief Intervention - £60,655, Alcohol Arrest Referral - £16,126, The formula for the 2012/13 PTB indicated that Swindon will experience a 4% reduction in funding at the 2011/12 levels. The formula for allocating the PTB is based upon the numbers in effective treatment and the numbers successfully completing treatment and not representing within 6 months of completing treatment.

- 4.8.9 The reduction in funding from the centrally allocated pooled treatment budget makes it imperative that services are re-commissioned in line with the re-design plans to maximise the recovery process.
- 4.8.10 Current in year performance indicates that the Swindon Treatment System is on track to receive a pooled treatment budget uplift.

Areas that may require Policy Changes or Review

- 4.8.11 The payment by results national pilot study is still in progress, once the findings from this study have been published there may well be a need to review policies and procedures.

Swindon Treatment and Recovery System Delivery Principals

- 4.8.12 The principals of delivering the Swindon Treatment and Recovery Service are broad and apply to all the component parts of the Swindon Drug Treatment and Recovery Service.
- 4.8.13 Recovery will underpin the Swindon drug and alcohol treatment system.
- 4.8.14 The Authority supports the UKDPC definition of recovery:

"Recovery is a process, characterised by voluntarily sustained control over substance use, which maximises health and wellbeing and participation in the rights, roles and responsibilities of society".
- 4.8.15 Controlled abstinence, social inclusion and employment are viewed as central to recovery for the majority of drug and alcohol users. Key features of a recovery system include short treatment episodes and a vibrant recovery community offering a significant degree of self-help.
- 4.8.16 It is vital that the system as a whole and individual workers understand the principles of recovery. The term promotes a powerful message for both substance misuse workers and service users alike. The focus of service and worker delivery will be to support and coordinate a holistic

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package of care that aims to enable the development of individualised plans for positive change. The Swindon Treatment System will deliver interventions where pathways are available to cover both abstinence and non-abstinence based recovery journeys, ensuring that all interventions are underpinned by harm reduction.

- 4.8.17 Care coordination is essential to ensuring the provision of effective treatment regardless of treatment provider or sector. The treatment System will provide effective and consistent care coordination to ensure service users benefit from the spectrum of specialist and non-specialist interventions available in Swindon. Interventions will be dynamic and, in most cases, time-limited to encourage movement through the treatment system.
- 4.8.18 The Treatment System will adhere to the principles of personalisation, supporting service users to be active participants in the selection and delivery of services that meet their individual needs. The Treatment System will treat all service users adhering to the principles of dignity, privacy, choice, safety, realising potential, equality and diversity.
- 4.8.18 Mainstream services offer a variety of interventions to support service users' recovery, including employment, housing and social integration. The Mainstream Services will proactively and constructively work with non-drug and alcohol specialist services such as Job Centre Plus, Registered Social Landlords and others in order to maximise outcomes for service users.
- 4.8.19 The Treatment System will work proactively and constructively with commissioners and any new treatment providers to ensure pathways are robust and any new services become fully integrated within the treatment system.
- 4.8.20 The Treatment System will embrace all commissioned Contractors to ensure that community provision is a seamless part of the Swindon treatment system and that the service user's experience and perception is that of an integrated service model.
- 4.8.21 Care coordination across the criminal justice system is essential and the Treatment System will actively participate in partnership case management forums including the 'SWITCH' Integrated Offender Management Forum, Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (for victims of domestic violence and abuse), Multi agency children in need and child protection procedures, Adult and Children's safeguarding Boards as requested, Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (for the most serious violent and sexual offenders), High Crime

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Causing Users (for prolific drug using offenders), Local Case Management Forums (for low level offenders), Sex Worker Case Management Forum, Domestic Violence Offender Management Group, See the Adult, See the Child protocol., Hidden Harm and others.

- 4.8.22 The integration of drug and alcohol services for both community and criminal justice service users is of the utmost importance to the commissioners. The Treatment System will deliver an efficient and effective integrated system that meets the needs of individuals, their families and their communities.
- 4.8.23 The Mainstream Services will ensure the effective throughput of service users within the treatment system. Integrated care pathways have been developed and will be reviewed in line with local clinical governance arrangements and national guidelines in liaison with the commissioners at 12 month intervals.
- 4.8.24 Working across all points within the criminal justice system, the Treatment System will bring together existing drug and alcohol schemes, such as Arrest Referral, Conditional Cautioning, Court Referral, Drug Rehabilitation Requirements (DRR), Alcohol Treatment Requirements (ATR), PPO Outreach, and prison resettlement services, as well as any new initiatives that emerge.
- 4.8.25 The Treatment System will ensure that substance misusing offenders receive effective treatment with the specific objective of reducing their offending and reducing the harm that alcohol and drugs causes to individuals, their families and their communities, contributing towards breaking the link between drugs and crime in Swindon.
- 4.8.26 Clinical governance is of the utmost importance to the commissioners. The Treatment System will have in place robust clinical governance mechanisms, including an identified clinical lead, to ensure that the quality and safety of its services is of a high standard that is continually improving.
- 4.8.27 The Treatment System has written policies and procedures relevant to the operation of the service in place. Staff are aware of these and familiar with the content. Policies will include, but not be limited to:
- Service Audit
 - Risk Assessment
 - Clinical Assessment
 - Care Planning

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- Community Detoxification
- Supervised Consumption
- Prescribing
- Management Supervision and Clinical Supervision
- Planned and Unplanned Discharge
- Serious Untoward Incidents
- Safeguarding adults and children
- Health and Safety
- Lone Working
- Record Keeping and Information Sharing
- Referral and Transfer in/between services
- Service User Involvement
- Training and Continuous Professional Development

- 4.8.28 The Treatment System will carry out a thorough care planned review (clinical, social, and psychological) of all community and criminal justice service users. This will be undertaken at 12 month intervals. Consent will be sought from new service users and re-sought from all existing service users in order to facilitate information sharing within the Swindon Treatment and Recovery System and with National Drug Treatment Management System.
- 4.8.29 The Treatment System will fully support the primary care role including the development of recovery-focused shared care services. The Treatment System will ensure effective throughput of service users from criminal justice and specialist services to primary care.
- 4.8.30 The Treatment System will ensure that a dedicated performance management function is established. The Treatment System will ensure effective reporting as required by the commissioners and stakeholders, and will support the development of both output and outcome monitoring.
- 4.8.31 Performance reports and all non-personalised, aggregated data will be available to commissioners for contract review meetings, needs assessment analysis and audit purposes.
- 4.8.32 Mainstream Services will attend commissioner-led meetings including monthly contract review meetings, Health and Treatment Group, and the Performance Delivery Group, Hidden harm.
- 4.8.33 The Treatment System will work to develop robust and effective information sharing protocols with partner agencies that will promote effective multi-agency working. Where there are children in contact

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with patients in treatment and/or living with them, information will be shared routinely with the Children's Social Care Referral and Assessment Team. It is possible that patients in treatment will be the parent or siblings of families in crisis (referred to as Troubled Families). All relevant data will be shared on service users whose families fall within the definition of Troubled Families (children with poor school attendance and/or exclusions, children and young people involved in anti-social behaviour/offending, parents not in full time work). This information will be shared routinely with the performance team of Swindon Borough Council

- 4.8.34 The Treatment System will work to continually improve the performance and cost efficiency of the treatment interventions, including working with partners to expand early intervention and preventative initiatives, minimise the risk of relapse and reduce long-term treatment for chronic conditions.
- 4.8.35 The Treatment System will regularly review provision with commissioners to ensure that all interventions meet the needs of service users.
- 4.8.36 The drug and alcohol arena is subject to changes in policies and good practice. The Treatment System will be proactively and constructively responsive to new emergent policies, guidelines and local trends in consultation with commissioners.

4.9 Reducing Domestic Abuse

Overview

- 4.9.1 Domestic abuse is defined as any incident of threatening behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional) between adults who are or have been intimate partners or family members, regardless of gender or sexuality."
- 4.9.2 Reduction of domestic abuse forms part of the role of the Community Safety Partnership. Consequently we:
- Lead on the development of initiatives to support the work of the community safety partnership in relation to domestic violence.
 - Monitor the Swindon specific action plans and agreed targets and reporting to relevant partner agencies and meeting group.

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- Liaise with partner agencies to develop a common understanding of the issues and approached being used to tackle domestic violence,
- Promote a consistent, coordinated and sustainable approach to tackling domestic violence

4.9.3 The Domestic Violence Steering Group (DVSG) is responsible for the Domestic Violence Strategy (2012-13) and its delivery plan. The Steering Group meets bi-monthly. The DVSG reports to the Joint Commissioning Group, which in turn is responsible to the Safer and Stronger Executive Board.

4.9.4 Current Domestic Violence Services in Swindon are listed below and are provided through Swindon Women's Aid. The contract runs from April 1st 2012 and provides new domestic violence services, which includes a new purpose built refuge. Swindon Women's Aid was successful and along with TUPE'd staff are providing three distinct services within the contract:

I. Emergency accommodation

Accommodation included 20 self-contained units (1, 2 & 3 bedrooms) and 2 emergency rooms. Including a playroom and teenager's space and an IT suite.

The Refuge will continue to staff the 24 hour helpline for victims, family and friends and professionals and Aftercare Support for ex-residents.

II. Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs) working with high risk victims. 2 x 25 hour CAADA (Coordinated Action Against Domestic Abuse) qualified IDVAs

III. Outreach Service working with standard and medium risk victims.

2 project workers 1x 35 hours per week and 1x 30 hour posts.

In addition, Swindon Women's Aid will be providing Groupwork opportunities for victims and survivors.

The contract is for 3 years and is for £307k per year. The funding for the contract came from Supporting People budget and SBC Community Grant money.

4.9.5 SBC Children & Families

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SBC Children and Families are funding a Children's Concurrent Groupwork project which provided groupwork and support for children aged 4 to 14 years in three groups. A group for the non-abusing parent runs alongside. This project was previously managed by the NSPCC but will now continue within Children & Families.

4.9.6 Hometruths

SBC has awarded Hometruths with a grant of £3750 to develop a Survivors Forum - TEARS (Together Ending Abusive Relationships Safely). The grant will be used to provide 6 meetings for the Forum over the coming year. From August this year TEARS will be attending the Domestic Violence Forum to provide a voice for victims and survivors in Swindon. It is envisaged that TEARS will be available for consultation on future provision and any policy or legislation changes from a victim's perspective.

4.9.7 Privacy Card

This is a card that can be presented to reception in the One Stop Shop to enable the victim to receive a private consultation space. This project has been developed in partnership with AAFDA (Advocacy After Fatal Domestic Abuse). This project has drawn interest from a number of other Local Authority areas who would like to develop similar schemes.

4.9.8 Domestic Violence Protection Notices/Orders (DVPN/Os)

Following the publication of the Government Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy the DVPO project has been piloted in Wiltshire since 1st July 2011 along with 2 other Police force areas – Greater Manchester and West Mercia.

When an incident of domestic violence occurs the alleged perpetrator is taken into custody whilst an investigation goes ahead. If there is insufficient evidence for a criminal conviction then a Superintendent can issue a DVP Notice for 48 hours. This prevents the perpetrator from returning to the address of the victim. Within 48 hours an application is made to the Magistrates to extend the Notice into an Order for up to 28 days.

It has recently been announced that the pilot will be extended for a further 7 months whilst the Home Office and an independent evaluation takes place.

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This pilot did not provide any additional funding and this has resulted in capacity issues for the support services.

A Multi-Agency Project Board was set up to help develop this project.

4.9.9 Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (Claire's Law)

Following the death of Claire Woods her family have lobbied to have the Disclosure Scheme rolled out across the UK.

From July this year the scheme will be piloted in Wiltshire and 3 other police force areas.

The scheme will enable partners or other family members to apply for information on a person's past history in terms of domestic violence. The project is similar to the Child Sex Offenders Disclosure Scheme (Sarah's Law). A Decision Making Group will be set up to discuss whether information can be disclosed. This is a pan-Wiltshire project

There is currently a multi- agency Project Board looking at the processes and procedures for this.

It is envisaged that the project will work closely with the MARAC in Swindon

4.9.10 Domestic Violence Awareness Week – 19th – 23rd November

During this week domestic violence and abuse is highlighted and a series of events and publicity is organised.

A white ribbon is tied around a tree in front of Civic Offices and other organisations building around the Town.

The Adshells in the town centre are utilised and we have had posters highlighting coercive control and perpetrators in the past.

Last year an event for Employers was held in partnership with the Mindful Employers Network.

4.9.11 SBC Domestic Violence Policy

There is currently a policy that needs reviewing and updating. A task and finish group has been set up to do this. The group includes HR, Change Manager, Equality and Diversity, the DV Reduction Coordinator and Unison.

4.9.12 Locality Teams

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The Teams attended an awareness raising session and also to look at ways we could work in partnership and also to look at how we ensure that victims who may disclose are signposted to the most appropriate services to help them. Referral Pathways for the Teams to be involved in the risk assessment process are also being developed.

4.9.13 Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARACs)

The MARAC in Swindon is well established and working successfully to provide support for high risk victims of domestic violence. The Conferences are held fortnightly and are chaired by a Detective Inspector and administered through the CSP.

Referrals come from a variety of organisations including the police. When an incident of domestic violence is disclosed a Risk Assessment is carried out with the victim to determine of the level of risk of serious harm to the victim and their family.

Each referral is discussed and information from a wide range of agencies is shared and an action plan is agreed to support the victim. The Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) works with the victim and gives information on their behalf at the meeting and then feedbacks to the victim after the meeting.

4.9.14 Domestic Violence Awareness Training

A working group has been established to look at how training can effectively be delivered across the Borough. Currently there is training available as follows:

I. Awareness raising on the dynamics of domestic violence and good practice guidance for supporting and signposting victims and their families.

II. The Impact on Children – looking at how domestic violence affects children and how best to support them.

III. Honour Based Violence, Forced Marriage and Female Genital Mutilation Awareness Training. This course raises awareness of the issues and where workers can access help when supporting victims.

IV. DASH (Domestic Abuse, Stalking, Harassment and Honour Based Violence) this is the national risk assessment tool used by all agencies to determine the risk level of a victim and therefore what level of support is needed to increase the safety of the victim and their children.

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Priority Areas for the Coming Year

4.9.15 To reduce the occurrence and impact of domestic violence in Swindon.

There are 5 priority areas:

- I. Perpetrators – to ensure that individual perpetrators of domestic violence (convicted and non-convicted) are held accountable for their behaviour.
- II. Victims – to work collaboratively to ensure that all victims and survivors of domestic violence in Swindon have access to appropriate support and interventions.
- III. Children and Young People – to recognise the needs of and provide support for children and young people who are affected by domestic violence. To provide early interventions through preventative approaches.
- IV. Awareness - to increase awareness of the extent and impact of domestic violence to individuals, the community and agencies and organisations.
- V. Joint Working – to continue to improve the joint working between agencies, including information sharing and to establish robust structures to enable a co-ordinated approach.

4.9.16 Domestic Violence has been to the Scrutiny committee over the last 18 months and a variety of recommendations were made and work is continuing with these at present. It has been agreed that an update will be presented to the Committee on a six monthly basis.

Budgets

4.9.17 The Domestic Violence Reduction Coordinator sits within the Community Safety Partnership. This post is jointly funded through Police and NHS Swindon. There is also a £10k project budget funded by SBC, which is in addition to the services currently contracted and allows for small projects, publicity materials and other minor expenditure to be funded.

Areas that may require Policy Changes or Review

4.9.18 Domestic Violence Strategy 2013 – 2016. A new strategy will need to be developed and consulted on for delivery from April 2013. The

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Coordinator is working with her counterpart in Wiltshire to develop a joint strategy for Wiltshire. There will be a Swindon specific action plan detailing the priorities for Swindon.

4.10 Cabinet Member for a Safer and Stronger Borough – Suggestions for inclusion in the Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme.

- Stance with new police commissioner is up to speed
- New community panels – are they set up well and moving in right direction?
- Night time crime in Swindon through drinking before we start building the Mews development at Regent Circus

5.0 Alternative Options

- 5.1 The Committee can choose not to take account of the priorities of the Cabinet Member for a Safer and Stronger Borough when deciding upon the contents of the work programme.

5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- 6.1 There are no financial or procurement implications arising as a result of this report. Any expenditure arising as a result of an item on the Committee's work programme will be met by the Overview and Scrutiny Support budget, subject to the approval of the Committee.

Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 6.2 Section 21 of the Local Government Act requires every local authority to establish an overview and scrutiny function to hold the Executive to account, undertake policy development and review, monitor and improve performance.

All Other Implications (including Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

- 6.3 There are no other direct implications arising as a result of this report. Any further implications will be identified when a topic is reviewed by the Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee and in any

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recommendations made by the Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Links to One Swindon, Strategic Objectives, Plans and Policies

- 6.4 The remit of the Committee includes the review, scrutiny and development of policy recommendations and the monitoring performance of corporate priorities including One Swindon.

Diversity Impact Assessment

- 6.5 No Diversity Impact Assessment is required at this stage; any DIA that is required during review of topics included within the work programme will be identified at the appropriate stage.

Risk Management

- 6.6 No risk management issues have been identified at this stage, any risk management issues will be identified at the appropriate time when a topic is under review by the Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee and if it makes any recommendations.

7 Consultees

- 7.1 The Board Director Finance, Revenues, Benefits and Property (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

8 Background Papers

- 8.1 None

9 Appendices

- 9.1 None

Work Programme 2012/13

Safer & Stronger

Date: 28th June 2012

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Author: Overview & Scrutiny Officer

Wards: All Wards

Locality Affected: All Locality Area's

Parishes Affected: All Parish Area's

1. Purpose and Reasons

- 1.1 This report sets out details of the Annual Overview and Scrutiny work programme consultation exercise and details of suggested topics for the Safer & Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programme for 2012/13.
- 1.2 Each Overview and Scrutiny Committee is required to have a work programme that details the activities that it will be undertaking during the municipal year.
- 1.3 The work programme details the various topics and issues that each Committee intends to look into during the coming year with the aim of producing evidence based recommendations intended to provide service improvements for Cabinet and external agencies/bodies to consider.
- 1.4 The report is required in order to provide members of the Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee with details of how the work programme consultation exercise has been conducted to date and what will occur in regards to work programme development at the first meeting of the Municipal Year. The Overview and Scrutiny process should seek to represent the voice and concerns of people across the Borough, the annual work programme consultation exercise seeks to ensure that stakeholders, Councillors and the public have the opportunity to put forward suggestions for review by the Overview and Scrutiny function.

2 Recommendations

The Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1 Approve a work programme for the Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the 2012/13 Municipal year, ensuring they have taken into account the priorities and suggestions of relevant Cabinet Members, the views and concerns of Wiltshire Police, the Community Safety Partnership and the results of the annual work programme exercise.

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Jodie Townsend, Direct Dial Telephone Number 01793 463109, jtownsend@swindon.gov.uk.

Work Programme 2012/13

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- 2.2 Once a work programme has been agreed the Overview and Scrutiny Officer will make the necessary arrangements for the work programme to be carried out.

3 Detail

The Work Programme

- 3.1 Each Overview and Scrutiny Committee is required to have a work programme that details the activities that it will be undertaking during the municipal year.
- 3.2 Under the Council's Constitution, Overview and Scrutiny Committees are required to agree a work programme at the start of the municipal year outlining their priorities and likely outcomes of considering these issues.
- The work programme is developed taking into account:
 - Corporate priorities and objectives, including the Cabinet Forward Plan
 - Partnership strategic priorities and objectives
 - The interests and concerns of Members, Council officers, members of the public and other stakeholders such as community and voluntary groups and local businesses
- 3.3 Committees are encouraged to review the work programme on a regular basis to ensure it remains relevant and to prioritise the workload of the Committee.
- 3.4 Members are reminded that the work programme must also take into account:
- The workload of the Committee and of individual members
 - The capacity of the Scrutiny Unit and other officers to support a review
 - The resource implications of carrying out a review
 - The timescales for a review
 - The most appropriate method of carrying out a review e.g. Committee meeting, Task Group, Member Champion review

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- 3.5 The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 and the Police and Justice Act 2006 have presented the Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny with a role, remit and powers regarding crime and disorder matters.
- 3.6 The Committee has within its remit the opportunity to scrutinise the Community Safety Partnership, which is made up of the Council, the Police, Primary Care Trust, Fire Authority and Police Authority. The Community Safety Partnership has a duty to cooperate with the Committee and is required to 'have regard' to any recommendations made by the Committee.
- 3.7 The Committee has within its remit scrutiny and overview of crime and disorder matters. This means that the Committee can review crime and disorder topics, to assist it in fulfilling this function the Committee can require information from the Chief Officer of Police and Police Authority, as well as other partner authorities and can request the attendance of the Chief Officer of Police at meetings.
- 3.8 The Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee is encouraged to be mindful of its role and remit when considering a work programme for the 2011/12 Municipal Year.

Developing the Work Programme – The Cabinet

- 3.9.1 It is important that Overview and Scrutiny adds value to the work of the Council and its partner agencies, and produces tangible outcomes for local people that result in real service improvements. Selecting the right topics is crucial to ensure that scrutiny will be effective.
- 3.9.2 In order to help the Scrutiny Committee select the right topics for the work programme the Cabinet Member for a Safer and Stronger Borough will attend the first Scrutiny Committee meeting of the year as her portfolio is directly relevant to the remit of the Scrutiny Committee. The Cabinet Member will outline her portfolio priorities for the coming year, highlight any areas that require policy changes or review and may make suggestions for inclusion in the Scrutiny Committee work programme.
- 3.9.3 Members of the Scrutiny Committee are encouraged to work with Cabinet in the best interests of the Borough and to take into account the priorities and suggestions of Cabinet when considering the contents for their work programme.

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Work Programme 2012/13

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Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Developing the Work Programme – Annual Consultation Exercise

3.10.1 Between the end of March and mid-May 2011, the Scrutiny Unit has invited the following stakeholders to suggest topics to be included on Overview and Scrutiny Work Programmes for 2012/13:

- All Swindon Borough Council Members, including Cabinet Members
- All Candidates for the 2012 Council Elections
- Group Directors, Directors and Heads of Service
- Chief Executives of each of the NHS Trusts that operate in Swindon (for Health Overview & Scrutiny Committee)
- Swindon Borough Council Staff
- External stakeholders including Town and Parish Councils, local employers, community and voluntary groups, Wiltshire Police and the local media
- Members of the public via local press and the Swindon Borough Council website

3.10.2 The results of this consultation exercise are detailed in this report, the Committee is encouraged to consider these results when deciding upon the contents of its work programme for the 2012/13 municipal year.

3.10.3 The work programme will be reviewed at every Committee meeting or as the Committee decides to ensure that it remains relevant and that Members and Officers have sufficient capacity to effectively achieve its objectives.

3.3.4 The topics and issues that have been suggested for review by the Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee through the consultation process are as follows:

	Topic/Issue	Reason for suggestion/ Comments	Suggested By
1.	Alcohol	Alcohol and alcohol related violence, including the impact and role of licensing Further information will be provided by Wiltshire Police at the Committee meeting	Wiltshire Police

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Jodie Townsend, Direct Dial Telephone Number 01793 463109, jtownsend@swindon.gov.uk.

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2.	Violence	Violence, broke down into public and private space violence Further information will be provided by Wiltshire Police at the Committee meeting	Wiltshire Police
3.	Anti-Social Behaviour	Further information will be provided by Wiltshire Police at the Committee meeting	Wiltshire Police Public

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 The Committee can choose not to have a detailed work programme although it is recommended by the Overview and Scrutiny Officer that it is best practice to do so.

5. Implications, Diversity Impact Assessment and Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- 5.1 There are no financial or procurement implications arising as a result of this report. Any expenditure arising as a result of an item on the Committee's work programme will be met by the Overview and Scrutiny Support budget, subject to the approval of the Committee.

Legal and Human Rights Implications

- 5.2 Section 21 of the Local Government Act requires every local authority to establish an overview and scrutiny function to hold the Executive to account, undertake policy development and review, monitor and improve performance.

All Other Implications (including Staff, Sustainability, Health, Rural, Crime and Disorder)

- 5.3 There are no other direct implications arising as a result of this report. Any further implications will be identified when a topic is reviewed by the Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee and in any recommendations made by the Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from Jodie Townsend, Direct Dial Telephone Number 01793 463109, jtownsend@swindon.gov.uk.

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Links to One Swindon, Strategic Objectives, Plans and Policies

- 5.4 The remit of the Committee includes the review, scrutiny and development of policy recommendations and the monitoring performance of corporate priorities including One Swindon.

Diversity Impact Assessment

- 5.5 No Diversity Impact Assessment is required at this stage, any DIA that is required during review of topics included within the work programme will be identified at the appropriate stage.

Risk Management

- 5.6 No risk management issues have been identified at this stage, any risk management issues will be identified at the appropriate time when a topic is under review by the Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee and if it makes any recommendations.

6. Consultees

- 6.2 The Board Director Finance, Revenues, Benefits and Property (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.

7. Background Papers

- 7.2 Suggestions for topics to be included in the Safer and Stronger Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programme to the Scrutiny Unit. Full details of these can be obtained from the Scrutiny Unit.

8. Appendices

- 8.2 None.