

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No. 17

meeting date: TUESDAY, 9 MARCH 2010
title: STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT FOR RIBBLE VALLEY COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP
submitted by: JOHN HEAP – DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES
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1 PURPOSE

1.1 To inform Members of the updated strategic assessment which has been produced by Ribble Valley Community Safety Partnership (RVCSP).

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Council Ambitions - }
 - Community Objectives - }
 - Corporate Priorities - }
 - Other Considerations - }
- The strategic assessment will help the Council to make people's lives safe and healthier.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Ribble Valley Community Safety Partnership (RVCSP) brings together the work of a number of statutory partner agencies:

- Police.
- Ribble Valley Borough Council.
- Lancashire County Council.
- NHS East Lancashire.
- Lancashire Fire & Rescue Service.
- Lancashire Probation Service.

2.2 Its main aim is to reduce crime in the Ribble Valley: in that it has been particularly successful over the past 10 years as we are currently the fifth safest local authority in England.

2.3 In order to tackle crime, the RVCSP undertakes a strategic assessment on what the problems are which it faces. This is done on a 3 year plan called a Strategic Assessment.

2.4 The current plan covers the period from 2008 to 2011 and is reviewed on an annual basis.

3 ISSUES

3.1 The strategic assessment looks at the whole range of crime and disorder problems being perpetrated in the Ribble Valley.

3.2 As you will see from the report, key areas for concern are:

- serious acquisitive crime;

- substance misuse;
- anti-social behaviour;
- violent crime;
- criminal damage; and
- speeding in towns and villages.

3.3 Armed with this information, all agencies are now aware of what the problems are and more importantly where and when crimes are being committed.

3.4 The Community Safety Partnership currently has a number of initiatives which aim to reduce these problems including:

- sports diversionary tactics for young people;
- mentoring scheme with Ribblesdale School;
- parents in partnership aimed at improving parenting skills;
- various alcohol awareness initiatives including alcohol strips, polycarbonate glasses and anti-spiking caps;
- operations secure to encourage property owners to secure both their homes and good within them; and
- free fire safety checks.

3.5 All these initiatives are developed and supported by the Community Safety Partnership and accord with the findings of the Strategic Assessment.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources – The funding for RVCSP comes from two main sources: Area Based Grant and Second Homes Money.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – None.
- Political – None.
- Reputation – It is very important for the good reputation of Ribble Valley Borough Council that it continues to be one of the safest places in England.

5 **RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE**

5.1 Note the Strategic Assessment.

5.2 Continue to support any future initiatives from RVCSP which helps make Ribble Valley a safer and healthier place to live.

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

BACKGROUND PAPERS

1 Ribble Valley Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment.

For further information please ask for Bill Alker, extension 4412.