
DRAFT CRIME & DISORDER REDUCTION STRATEGY 2005-2008 AND AUDIT

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 To apprise Members of the new draft Rochford Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy 2005-2008 and Audit and seek Members' comments for the proposals outlined.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Under the Crime & Disorder Act 1998, responsible authorities have to produce a Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy every 3 years. The current Strategy lapses at the end of this month and so work is now well advanced on its replacement.
- 2.2 The Strategy is not a District Council document as such, although the District Council is one of the key partners. The key responsible players in producing the Strategy and overseeing its implementation are the:

- Castle Point and Rochford Primary Care Trust
- Essex County Council
- Essex County Fire and Rescue Service
- Essex Police
- Essex Police Authority
- National Probation Service – Essex Area

and of course, Rochford District Council.

3 DETAILED CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 Over the past few months, the Rochford District Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership, comprising some 50 plus organisations, has been overseeing the production of a new draft Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy for the Rochford District, together with accompanying Audit. The Strategy, as it has been drafted, has had to accommodate some very specific and detailed targets passed down directly from Government Office, who have also advised on its format and content.
- 3.2 Preparation of the Strategy and Audit have now reached the stage where both are being circulated to Partners for formal consideration and comment. All the comments will be considered at a Partnership meeting on 8th March, when both the Strategy and Audit will be finalised. A launch of the Strategy is scheduled for 22nd March; the document will then be sent to the Government Office.

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- 3.3 The Strategy is very much a bidding document and hence, subject to approval by Government Office, Home Office funding for Crime & Disorder projects will continue to be allocated to the Partnership.
- 3.4 Once the Audit and Strategy are completed, the Partnership will focus on finalising the detailed action plans which will underpin the key areas of work highlighted in the Strategy.
- 3.5 A copy of the draft Strategy and accompanying Audit will be sent under separate cover.

4 RISK IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Strategic Risk

Without an approved Strategy in place, there is a risk that decisions will be taken in an ad hoc function and that funding resources will not be forthcoming from the Home Office to address Crime & Disorder issues across the District.

4.2 Reputation Risk

The absence of an approved Strategy would have an adverse impact on the reputations of the District Council and other key partners in the District. It would also be likely to have a negative impact in terms of any future CPA Assessment.

5 PARISH IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 All the Parishes have the opportunity to consider and input into the new Strategy.

6 RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

that, as one of the main Partners, and subject to Members' consideration and comments, to approve the draft Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategy and Audit for the Rochford District. (CE)

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Background Papers:-

None

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