

CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998, SECTION 17 – IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Cllr Clements
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Summary: Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (CDA 1998) seeks to ensure that all council departments (also the Police, Health Service and Fire Authorities) have community safety considerations embedded into their planning, their policy and their operational day to day activity. The report proposes the adoption of an Implementation Strategy and support for the staging of workshops for staff and members.

Recommendation:	To adopt the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Section 17 Implementation Strategy and support the staging of workshops for staff and members.
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Impact on Delivering Corporate Objectives Community safety is a key corporate objective. The Implementation Plan and proposed workshops will better equip staff to discharge the Council's responsibilities under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. This is an action within the Corporate Plan.

Impact on other Statutory Objectives Community safety is a cross cutting objective that will impact on a variety of other statutory objectives.

Financial and Human Resource Implications: Delivery of the training is in the work plan for the Community Safety Officer. It will require a significant commitment of time by staff throughout the Council. Delivering the Implementation Plan will also require staff time although this should in due course be integrated into mainstream work.

Key Decision Status

- **Financial:** None
- **Ward:** None

Other Ward Implications: None

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (CDA 1998) seeks to ensure that all council departments (also the Police, Health Service and Fire Authorities) have community safety considerations embedded into their planning, their policy and their operational day to day activity.
- 1.2 The reason for bringing this report to the Executive is that community safety is an important element of the assessment within the CPA process. In addition, as a statutory requirement upon the Council, the mainstreaming of community safety requires a strong lead to be given by both the Executive and Corporate Team.

1.3 ARGUMENT

- 1.4 Section 17 identifies in law 'a need (for each authority) to do all it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in its area'. Whilst community safety is currently recognised as a priority throughout the Council's work there is considerably more that could be done. The CDA 1998 Section 17 Implementation Strategy (Appendix 1) outlines an approach for ensuring compliance.
- 1.5 A programme of training is proposed for staff and members that will explain what community safety, and Section 17 in particular, means in practice. It will give examples of activity to address community safety for individual service areas and assist staff in developing ideas for their own areas of work.

2. OPTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED

- 2.1 Section 17 places a requirement upon all Councils, so from that perspective there is no option. The Implementation Strategy proposes a variety of ways in which community safety can be mainstreamed into Council activity. These have been tested elsewhere but will be subject to review and amendment as further experienced is gained. Training through workshops is considered the most effective means of engaging staff in the issue and as such no other options are proposed.
- 2.2 The Council's Community Safety Officer has successfully delivered similar workshops for Allerdale Borough Council.

3. CONCLUSIONS

- 3.1 Endorsement is sought for the adoption of the CDA 1998 Section S17 Implementation Plan and for the staging of a programme of workshops as a key element within a programme to discharge the Council's responsibilities under Section 17 of the CDA 1998.

List of Appendices

Appendix A - Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Section 17 Implementation Strategy

List of Background Documents: Crime and Disorder Act 1998

List of Consultees: Corporate Team
Executive