Report to Scrutiny committee Item

5 July 2012

Report of Head of local neighbourhood services

Appointment to the county community safety partnership

Subject overview and scrutiny panel

Purpose

To consider the resolution from Cabinet, that the appointment to the county community safety partnership scrutiny panel is referred to Scrutiny Committee.

Recommendation

To nominate one member and one named substitute member to the county community safety partnership scrutiny panel.

Corporate and service priorities

The report helps to meet the corporate priority of a safe and clean city and the service plan priority to reduce anti-social behaviour, crime and the fear of crime and working effectively with the police

Financial implications

There are no direct financial implications that arise from this report.

Ward/s: All wards

Cabinet member: Councillor Driver – Environment and neighbourhoods

Contact officers

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Background documents

None

Report

- 1. The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 placed a joint responsibility on the police, local authorities and a range of other organisations to work together to tackle crime and disorder.
- 2. Statutory community safety partnerships (crime and disorder reduction partnerships as they were called at that time) were established involving a number of responsible authorities, who have a duty to participate. The responsible authorities of each CSP are the police, police authority, local authorities, fire and rescue service, probation service and primary care trust.
- 3. Following the approval by the Home Secretary to merge the seven district based community safety partnerships, Norfolk county council has established a scrutiny panel to scrutinise the community safety partnership as a sub group of the community services overview and scrutiny panel.
- 4. The scrutiny panel will meet at least once a year to scrutinise the CSP community safety strategy and at other times as required. The membership will be three county councillors, one each from the district councils and one member from the police authority until it is abolished in November 2012 as part of the new arrangements for the introduction of police and crime commissioners.
- 5. As a county council sub committee, the city council has been invited to nominate a member to this panel.
- 6. Given the role of this panel, Cabinet at its meeting of 13 June resolved to refer this request to Scrutiny committee to make an appointment.
- 7. The scrutiny panel is likely to meet in July 2012 for the first time. The terms of reference are included at appendix 1.

Community safety partnership scrutiny arrangements

Terms of Reference of Norfolk Countywide Community Safety Partnership Scrutiny Sub Panel

1. Role of the Sub Panel

The role of the Norfolk Countywide Community Safety Partnership Scrutiny Sub Panel is to:

- a. scrutinise the actions, decisions and priorities of the Norfolk Countywide Community Safety Crime and Disorder Partnership in respect of crime and disorder on behalf of the Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Panel
- b. Scrutinise the priorities as set out in the annual Countywide Community Safety Partnership Plan.
- c. Make any reports or recommendations to the Countywide Community Safety Partnership and/or where considered appropriate to the Community Services Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

2. Membership

- a. 3 County Councillors (Politically balanced)
- b. 7 District Council members one co-opted from each District.
- c. One co-opted member of Norfolk Police Authority (until November 2012 when the Police and Crime Commissioner takes office)
- d. Each member of the Sub Panel to have one named substitute. No other substitutes are acceptable.
- e. The Sub Panel may wish to consider co-opting additional non voting members onto it if appropriate.
- f. The Chairman to be elected from the County Council members on the sub Panel on an annual basis.
- g. The Vice Chairman to be elected from other members on the sub panel on an annual basis.

3. Working Style

- a. The Community Safety Scrutiny sub panel meetings will be held on an annual basis to scrutinise the Community Safety Partnership Plan and on such other occasions as are required.
- b. The quorum for the sub panel will be five members
- c. Unless otherwise stated meetings of the sub panel will be held in accordance with Article 6 of Norfolk County Council's Constitution relating to Overview and Scrutiny bodies.

d. The rights of the public to attend meetings of the sub panel are outlined in Article 3 of Norfolk County Council's constitution.

General Issues

a. Democratic support to the sub panel will be provided by the County Council