



TOURISM, COMMUNITIES, CULTURE & LEISURE COMMITTEE

27 July 2021

REPORT TITLE:	COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY 2021-2026
REPORT OF:	DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

REPORT SUMMARY

It is a statutory responsibility under the Crime and Disorder Reduction Act 1998 for Councils to lead on the production of a coherent Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy (Community Safety Strategy).

This report introduces the Community Safety Strategy 2021-2026 (Appendix 1 attached) which has been co-produced following significant consultation with a wide range of stakeholders.

Community Safety is one of five key themes of the wider Wirral Plan 2021-2026 and the Wirral Community Safety Strategy and the work of the Safer Wirral Partnership Board has one key objective - to make Wirral a safe place to live, work and visit.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) The Tourism, Communities, Culture and Leisure Committee is recommended to comment on the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy (Community Safety Strategy) and endorse its submission to the Council Meeting for final approval.
- 2) That the Assistant Director Neighbourhoods, Safety and Transport be requested to provide regular updates (at least annually) to the committee on the progress made in respect to the delivery of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy (Community Safety Strategy)

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1.1 It is a statutory requirement for the Council to produce a Community Safety Strategy. Our Community Safety Strategy 2021-2026 is a critical over-arching document in Wirral's drive to improve the safety and perceptions of safety for our residents, businesses and visitors.
- 1.2 The strategy not only sets out the governance structure for the Safer Wirral Partnership Board but also clearly articulates the ten key priority themes which were articulated through the stakeholder engagement process.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 There were no other options considered as it is a statutory requirement to produce a Community Safety Strategy.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The strategy has been co-produced in concert with elected members, victims of crime and other key statutory and voluntary sector agencies.
- 3.2 Five on-line workshops were held to outline the scope of the document, take views on priorities, both local and Wirral-wide and to shape the new direction of travel for this significant piece of work.
- 3.3 The ten priority themes are ASB, Violent Crime, Domestic Abuse, Drugs and Alcohol, Hate Crime, Modern Slavery, Prevent, Road Safety, Emergency Planning and Coastal and Inland Water Safety.
- 3.4 Each of the themes outlined above in 3.3 will be under-pinned by a detailed Action Plan which will focus on operational delivery, driven by partnership working and clear realistic outcomes.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Community Safety strategy will be delivered within existing budgets and will maximise grant and other income opportunities where they arise.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 It is a statutory responsibility under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 for Councils to lead on the production of a coherent Community Safety Strategy.
- 5.2 The delivery of this strategy and its accompanying thematic action plans will be overseen by the Safer Wirral Partnership Board.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: STAFFING, ICT AND ASSETS

6.1 There are no specific resource implications arising as a direct result of the strategy.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

7.1 All of the ten thematic priorities will be accompanied by their own programme specific risk register.

7.2 There is a risk of partner organisations being unable to fulfil the high standards set out in the strategy. This is mitigated by the robust governance and meetings structure which is hallmark of all community safety work both in Wirral and across the region.

7.3 Furthermore, it is anticipated that the strengthened partnership relationships developed during the course of the Covid pandemic will continue and provide a fruitful base, from which to deliver an outstanding community safety programme of interventions.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

8.1 The strategy has been written and co-produced, working alongside Elected Members and all key partners via an extensive workshop programme. It has also taken on-board, comments from wider community consultations carried out via specific projects such as, Safer Streets and Cradle to Career.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

9.1 Wirral Council has a legal requirement to make sure its policies and the way it carries out its work, does not discriminate against anyone. An Equality Impact Assessment is a tool to help council services identify steps they can take to ensure equality for anyone who might be affected by a particular policy, decision or activity.

10.0 ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS

10.1 The Safer Wirral Partnership Board will be cognisant of the need for all delivery to take account of the Council's declaration of a Climate emergency.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Community Safety Strategy 2021-2026

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date