

Scrutiny Committee:	Overview & Scrutiny Board (OSB) – Crime and Disorder Committee
Date of Meeting:	11 March 2021
Subject:	Update on Arrangements on Neighbourhood Policing in Luton
Report Author:	Superintendent Jaki Whittred

Purpose

1. At the OBS Crime and Disorder Committee in March 2020, Superintendent Whittred announced that additional investment in Community Policing resources had been agreed by the Chief Constable and the Police and Crime Commissioner (an uplift of 24 officers across the county) and that work would take place to develop a new Community Policing Model to maximise the impact of this uplift. The purpose of this briefing is to provide the Committee with an update regarding development of this work throughout 2020, with a particular focus on Luton.

Recommendations

2. For noting/comment/make recommendation where necessary

Report

3. Community Policing (CP) is guided by 7 priorities as developed by the College of Policing;
 - Engaging Communities
 - Solving Problems
 - Targeted Activity
 - Promoting the Right Culture
 - Building Analytical Capabilities
 - Developing our professionals
 - Developing and Sharing Knowledge
4. Bedfordshire Police have developed and implemented a new CP model which enables us to deliver against these guidelines within all of our communities. It should be noted that this does not include our Response Police function which is distinctly separate from the CP department and nor does it include our Criminal Investigation resources.
5. The CP model is arranged with a dedicated Chief Inspector leading each of Bedfordshire's three Local Authority areas, with Chief Inspector Jamie Langwith leading the Luton team and operational command managed by Inspector Fiona Dawson and Inspector Cray Birch. The area is geographically split and the North, West and Central areas have 2 dedicated Sergeants, 12 Police Constables (PCs) and 9 Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs). South, East and Town Centre also

have 2 dedicated Sergeants, with 11 PCs and 9 PCSOs. The PCs and PCSOs are dedicated to their areas and a minimum 2-year tenure has been introduced as we understand the benefits and desire for local communities and partners to recognise and know their local officers. We also recognise the value of those officers developing effective local knowledge of people and places.

6. We have one additional CP Hub based at Luton Airport and this is led by Inspector Alex House, supported by 3 Sergeants, 15 PCs and 9 police staff.
7. In addition to the above CP resources, Luton CP Team have a dedicated Education and Diversion Team which consists of 1 PC and 2 PCSO, supported by a full-time coordinator. This newly implemented team are working closely with our partners in Youth Offending Services to focus on early intervention and diversion for young people at risk of offending and / or criminal exploitation. This workstream is being led by Chief Inspector Lee Haines who is in the stages of finalising our Education and Diversion Strategy 2021-22.
8. Luton CP team also have a dedicated Design Out Crime Officer (DOCO) who is embedded within the team and supports with tactical crime prevention advice and activity. They have recently been joined by a Street Watch Coordinator who will be focusing on developing, implementing and facilitating new Street Watch schemes in Luton.
9. We have embedded further specialist resources into the CP department which Luton are benefitting from. This includes the Community Cohesion Team with a dedicated Sergeant, 2 PCs and 3 PCSOs, The Hate Crime Team, with a dedicated Sergeant and 5 PCs, a Community Enforcement Team with a dedicated Sergeant and 4 PCs (although we are currently recruiting to expand this to 9 PCs) and finally a Mental Health Street Triage Team consisting of a Sergeant and 3 PCs working with mental health nurses and paramedics in response to mental health crisis incidents.
10. As described at the beginning of this report, the CPT consists of dedicated professionals focused on effective community engagement to identify those policing priorities impacting most on local communities within Luton. Once those priorities are identified, the teams will work with local communities and partners to problem solve together with a clear intention to reduce and prevent crime while keeping people safe.
11. We will have a Post Implementation Review of this model in January 2022 to evaluate the effectiveness, and the outcomes will be shared with partners and used to make further improvements to service delivery in Luton and Bedfordshire.

Proposal/Option

12. To note

Appendix (if any)

13. N/A

List of Background Papers - Local Government Act 1972, Section 100D

14. N/A