

REPORT TO: Safer Halton Policy and Performance Board
DATE: 22nd January 2008
REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director – Health & Community
SUBJECT: Safer Halton Partnership Strategic Impact Assessment
WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To inform the Safer Halton PPB of the strategic assessment process for the Safer Halton Partnership.

2.0 Recommendation: That:

- i) Safer Halton PPB notes the content of this report and support future work on preparing the Strategic assessment document.

3.0 Supporting Information

3.1 The Home Office requires Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) to carry out a Strategic Assessment and develop a Partnership Plan for 2008.

3.2 The Home Office has produced Guidance 'Developing a Strategic Assessment', which sets out the process and framework for the assessment. It requires partnerships to include the following components in the strategic assessment:

- Analysis of the levels and patterns of crime, disorder and substance misuse.
- An analysis of the recent changes in those patterns.
- Analysis of why these changes have occurred.
- Identification of priority issues.
- Community consultation and engagement
- Assessment of the extent to which last year's plan was implemented.

3.3 The purpose of the strategic assessment is to provide knowledge and understanding of community safety issues that will inform and enable the partners to:

- Understand the patterns, trends and shifts relating to crime and disorder and substance misuse.
- Set clear and robust priorities for their partnership.
- Develop activity that is driven by reliable intelligence and meets the needs of the local community.
- Deploy resources effectively and present value for money.

- Undertake annual reviews and plan activity based on a clear understanding of the issues and priorities.
- The strategic assessment is intended to align with the NIM (National Intelligence Model) and the police process of producing strategic assessments that have been successfully used by the police to address crime issues.

3.4 The strategic assessment is intended to provide the partnership with the core planning material to inform the Partnership Plan.

4.0 **The Way Forward**

4.1 A multi agency strategic group will be established to carry out the work required for the review. They will collate and review data available, set a timeframe for collecting and comparing data and undertake the data analysis. They will also oversee the community consultation elements that are required as part of the process.

4.2 The group will utilise as much existing information and data from partners as possible. Halton currently has a dedicated data analyst who compiles all partnership data on the existing LAA targets. This includes information from other partners, including YOT, probation, DAAT and the Council. There are also other Strategic Needs Assessments being carried out, such as the joint Strategic Needs Assessment between the PCT and the Council and the police strategic assessment. Elements of other reviews may support and inform the work being undertaken as part of this review. Partners will be consulted, to provide data that they hold, which is relevant to the process.

4.3 Priority areas of work for the partnership will emerge from this analytical and consultative work. The partnership will be expected to review current activities and provision that relate to these priorities and identify gaps. They will also be expected to review what has worked well elsewhere and make recommendations for future action. Based on this information, the Safer Halton Partnership will then identify priorities and actions for the Partnership Plan, which will also be the Action Plan for the SSP to deliver the LAA.

4.4 The Strategic Assessment will therefore feed into the LAA process, to help identify appropriate local indicators and targets and inform future funding decisions. The needs assessment should be completed by March 08, although this may need to be brought forward, to help inform the LAA priorities and process.

5.0 **Policy Implications**

5.1 The purpose of the Assessment, and how it will be used to affect service delivery is outlined in Paragraph 3.3

6.0 **Financial Implications**

6.1 There are none at this stage.

7.0 **Council's Priorities**

7.1 Matters relating to community safety cut across all of the Council's priorities, but the primary focus is for A Safer Halton, reducing crime and the perception of crime and instances of anti-social behaviour.

8.0 **Risk Analysis**

8.1 The assessment is a requirement of the Home Office. The Council would be acting illegally if it did not do one.

9.0 **Equality and Diversity Issues**

9.1 The Assessment will address the needs of the whole community.

10.0 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

10.1 None under the meaning of the Act.

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer