

**REPORT TO:** Safer Halton Policy & Performance Board

**DATE:** 18<sup>th</sup> September 2007

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director, Environment

**SUBJECT:** Cheshire Safer Roads Partnership Business Plan 2007/8

**WARDS:** Borough wide

### **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 To present the Cheshire Safer Roads Partnership's (CSRP) Business Plan for 2007 – 2008.

### **2.0 RECOMMENDATION:That**

[1] That the report be noted.

[2] That the CSRP Business Plan 2007/8 be endorsed

### **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

3.1 In 2001, Halton installed its first 8 safety cameras as a Local Transport Plan funded safety initiative. In 2002 the Cheshire Area Safety Camera Partnership (CASCP) was formed and accredited under the national hypothecation program. The project has continued to develop and Halton currently has 21 safety cameras in the Borough, all positioned at sites, which comply with the national guidelines. The partnership was funded from fine income through a 'netting off' arrangement.

3.2 The introduction of safety cameras has had a positive effect on the safety record at the sites treated. However, the wider impact of the units on general traffic speeds and casualties is more difficult to identify.

3.3 In December 2005 the Secretary of State announced changes in the organisation of camera partnerships. As from April 2007 the management and operation of the safety cameras was required to be integrated into the delivery of each highway authority's road safety strategy. There was also a major change in the funding arrangements, with highway authorities being allocated Road Safety Grants, which could be used to fund a wide range of safety initiatives complementary to the safety cameras.

3.4 In response to these changes, the Cheshire Safer Roads Partnership (CSRP) was established in April 2007, with a remit that not only included the management and development of Cheshire's speed and red light cameras, but also delivering Cheshire wide strategic road safety, education, training and publicity initiatives.

3.5 The Government does not prescribe arrangements for the operation of the CSRP but it is expected that partnership working will be a high priority allowing road safety to be tackled across a broad front. Reflecting this, the CSRP comprises representatives from the four highway authorities (Halton, Warrington, Cheshire and Highways Agency), the Police, Fire and Courts Services.

3.6 The work undertaken by CSRP will complement that currently undertaken by each of the partner organisations, which is vital in maintaining the progress that has been made on casualty reduction to date.

3.7 The Business Plan, (See Appendix 1) sets out the vision, strategy and objectives of the partnership and details a range of challenging targets; progress on which will be regularly monitored and reported annually to this Board.

## **4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 None

## **5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

### **5.1 Financial Implications**

5.1.1 The 2007/08 budget for CSRP is £2.003m, which will be funded from the Road Safety Grants that have been allocated, by Government, to all three local highway authorities.

5.1.2 CSRP has agreed that Cheshire County Council will act as treasurers to the partnership.

## **6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

### **6.1 A Safer Halton**

The work of the partnership directly supports this priority through the introduction of initiatives and interventions designed to deliver a safer environment.

### **6.2 Children & Young People in Halton**

By helping to create a safer environment, the partnership assists in the safeguarding of children and young people and in the achievement of accessible services.

### **6.3 A Healthy Halton**

A reduction in road casualties will have the direct benefit of releasing health resources and thereby enable funding to be focused on other areas of health care.

## **7.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

7.1 In order to minimise the risk of failing to deliver the business plan the work of the partnership will be closely monitored by project managers.

## **8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

8.1 None

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

9.1 Background information held in the Traffic Management Section, Environment, Rutland House, Halton Lea, Runcorn, WA7 2GW. Contact: S. Johnson

9.2 Files available electronically are the CSRP Business Case document, CSRP Strategic Assessment and the CSRP Baseline Report.

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