

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

6.00 P.M.

16TH NOVEMBER 2022

PRESENT:- Councillors Richard Austen-Baker (Chair), Mandy King, Geoff Knight (substitute for Roger Dennison), Jack Lenox, Abi Mills and Joyce Pritchard

Apologies for Absence:-

Councillors Roger Dennison

Also in Attendance :-

Councillor Caroline Jackson – Leader of the Council
Chief Inspector Dave Britain
Inspector James Martin
Sergeant Lindsay Brown

Officers in attendance:-

Suzanne Lodge	Acting Director for Communities and the Environment
Will Griffin	Head of Public Realm
Stephen Metcalfe	Principal Democratic Support Officer
Kirstie Banks-Lyon	Resilience and Community Safety Officer
Jenny Kay	Civic & Ceremonial Democratic Support Officer

22 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 26th October 2022 were signed by the Chair as a correct record.

23 ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS AUTHORISED BY THE CHAIR

There were no items of Urgent Business.

24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

25 LANCASTER DISTRICT COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

The Chair welcomed Chief Inspector Dave Britain, Inspector James Martin, Sergeant Lindsey Brown to the meeting.

The Committee was given an overview of the work that had been undertaken by the Community Safety Partnership over the last 12 months. It was reported that the

Partnership had set the following priorities earlier in the year following the review of the Lancashire Strategic Assessment and Joint Strategic Needs Assessment :-

- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Youth Alcohol Issues
- The Development of a Suicide Prevention Action Plan

The Community Safety Partnership had also overseen the introduction of the Public Space Protection Order in December 2021 and the Bay Cycleway CCTV project.

It was reported that a 25% reduction in reports of anti-social behaviour had been seen within the district but knife crime had increased. With regards to youth alcohol issues, a district wide Community Alcohol Partnership had been established. This Partnership had undertaken test purchases and a programme of education packages in schools for over 14 year olds was being undertaken.

Members were advised that the Suicide Prevention Plan had been developed to address the increase in suicides within the district and the increasing issue of young people experiencing mental health issues since the lockdown.

The Committee went on to discuss the Public Space Protection Order that was in place. It was reported that 3 fixed penalty tickets had been issued to persistent offenders. Information was provided on the national introduction of 20 thousand new police officers and the need to get 'bobbies on the beat' visible to the public.

A number of questions were raised regarding the process for making an arrest, mental health issues, the gathering of evidence and issues with e-scooters.

The Leader of the Council, in her role as the Chair of the Community Safety Partnership, invited the Committee to submit issues to the Partnership. It was suggested that the Committee should hold a Community Safety meeting as well as the annual Crime and Disorder meeting.

Resolved :-

That the update be noted.

Chair

(The meeting ended at 7.22 p.m.)

**Any queries regarding these Minutes,
please contact Jenny Kay, Democratic Services
- email jkay@lancaster.gov.uk**