

**POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICERS – GOVERNANCE PROTOCOL
(Report by Director of Operational Services)**

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To consider the draft governance protocol established for the Police Community Support Officers.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At its meeting of 14 October 2003, the Scrutiny Panel considered the “Memorandum of Understanding” which is the strategic protocol between the Cambridgeshire Constabulary and the District Council regarding the Police Community Support Officers.
- 2.2 Following that Scrutiny Panel, the Memorandum of Understanding has now been revised and agreed with the Constabulary; with amendments which reflect the issues raised by the Panel and by Cabinet.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 Following on from the strategic protocol, the Constabulary Central Division Officers and Officers of the District Council have developed an operational Governance Protocol to deal with:
- Guidance/Interface between the Constabulary Central Division and the District Council
 - HDC services additional deliveries through PCSOs
- 3.2 The draft Governance Protocol is attached at Annex A and the Scrutiny Panel are invited to comment on it, prior to its consideration by Cabinet.
- 3.3 The District Council services that can be delivered by PCSOs will be in addition to the service delivery by District Council Officers thus giving a greater coverage to those issues often considered by residents to be most of a ‘nuisance’. It is considered essential to ‘pilot’ the delivery of these services by PCSOs in a ‘trial area’ before delivering them across the District to ensure any problems are sorted out. It is proposed that the Service Agreement for responsible dog ownership is the first to be developed and is to be tested in the St Neots area.
- 3.4 As experience is gained, then additional Service Agreements will be developed. This will also be in line with the requirements of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003.

- 3.5 In terms of performance management, the Constabulary are still developing a Constabulary-wide performance management system. As it is important to develop performance management, the Central Division and District Council have agreed to agree some PIs for the 5 objectives to provide some interim performance data and it is anticipated this will be completed in the next month. In the meantime, a report is appended as Annex B to show the information currently available.
- 3.6 The Council will be holding a series of training events for PCSOs to bring in the Service Agreements. Scrutiny Panel Members will be invited to the next event in April to meet the PCSOs and to see the training provided.
- 3.7 This report has been presented to the Scrutiny Panel (Finance & Planning) and any comments they have made will be presented to Cabinet orally.

4. RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 Cabinet are asked to approve the Governance Protocol with Cambridgeshire Constabulary (Central Division) regarding Police Community Support Officers.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Memorandum of Understanding
- Medium Term Plan

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