OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL (PLANNING & FINANCE) CABINET

8<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2005 17<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2005

# COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY (Report by Head of Environment & Transport)

## 1. PURPOSE

1.1 To present the draft Community Safety Strategy for approval.

## 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires Community Safety Partnerships to publish a strategy for reducing crime and disorder in their local area every three years. The latest strategy is due to be published by April 2005 to cover the coming three-year period to 2008.
- 2.2 The strategy has been drawn up following a process of auditing crime and disorder and consultation with the public. The strategy sets outs some key priorities and sets targets for reducing the crime and disorder problems highlighted by the audit and consultation.

#### 3. THE COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY

- 3.1 The overall aim of the strategy is to promote safer communities through working in partnership. The strategy sets out six key priorities listed in paragraph 4 below. Targets have been set under each priority and these will be monitored and reviewed by the Community Safety Partnership to ensure adequate progress is being made.
- 3.2 The strategy will be implemented through a number of working groups based on the priority themes. The community will be involved through the area based community safety task groups which will meet twice a year and will give the public a chance to raise any crime and disorder concerns and find out about progress made against strategy targets in their area.
- 3.3 The draft Huntingdonshire Community Safety Strategy for 2005-2008 is attached at Annex A. At the time of writing a number of the targets are stilled being worked on by the Crime Research Team and will be added before the strategy is published.

### 4 STRATEGY PRIORITIES

- 4.1 The priorities for the new Community Safety Strategy are as follows (in no particular order of priority):
  - ♦ The reduction of violence against the person
  - ♦ The reduction of vehicle crime.
  - ◆ To tackle and put in place actions to reduce anti-social behaviour
  - ◆ The reduction of shop theft in Huntingdon and other market towns
  - ♦ To reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse
  - ◆ The reduction of dwelling burglary in hotspot areas including Huntingdon East and Huntingdon North wards

#### 5. RECOMMENDATION

It is

recommended that the Panel and Cabinet approve the Community Safety Strategy for 2005 - 2008.

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Crime and Disorder Audit Location 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Pathfinder House File ref - Huntingdonshire Crime and Disorder Audit 2004

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