

LEICESTERSHIRE SAFER COMMUNITIES' STRATEGY BOARD

29th SEPTEMBER 2023

RUTLAND COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE SAFER COMMUNITIES' STRATEGY BOARD

Introduction

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the proposal that Rutland County Council become a member of the Leicestershire Safer Communities Strategy Board (LSCSB).
2. The report sets out background information and rationale, the legal basis for the application, potential implications/benefits together with recommendations.

Background and Legal Basis

3. Safer Communities Strategy Boards were set up as a result of The Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007, Section 8 of which states that "for each county area there shall be a county strategy group". Accordingly, both Leicestershire County and Rutland Councils have created bodies to ensure regulatory compliance and manage community safety matters efficiently and effectively, as follows:
 - (a) The LSCSB coordinates community safety priorities across Leicestershire and includes representatives from the County Council, Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs), and the "responsible authorities" (including, Police, Public Health, Fire and Rescue, National Probation Service, and the Police and Crime Commissioner). Representatives from Rutland County Council and Leicester City Council are also invited as participating observers, with no voting rights.
 - (b) Rutland Council likewise has a Safer Rutland Partnership comprising local partners to oversee community safety matters. To ensure regulatory compliance Rutland Council has indicated that it will retain the Safer Rutland Partnership which will run in tandem with its LSCSB membership.
4. The 2007 Regulations confirm that representatives from other local authorities may attend the LSCSB meetings:
 - (a) "Strategy group meetings may be attended by persons who represent co-operating and participating persons and bodies and such other

persons as the strategy group invites.” (Section 3(6)).

- (b) “County strategy group meetings may be attended by persons who represent co-operating and participating persons and bodies for the areas in the county area and such other persons as the county strategy group invites.” (Section 8(6))

Rationale for Rutland Membership

5. Crime, anti-social behaviour and domestic abuse matters are not restricted to County boundaries, work relating to ‘County Lines’ is an obvious example. The proposal will provide opportunities to better share information, intelligence and resources and help reduce duplication of work with many of the stakeholders involved covering both Leicestershire and Rutland.
6. Rutland Council’s attendance at meetings of the LSCSB as an active participating observer already benefits joint working and communication. A more formalised arrangement will engender a more effective partnership between Rutland the current Board and in particular bordering Districts and Boroughs.
7. There is already very close alignment of shared community safety priorities across Rutland and the Leicestershire Safer Communities Strategy Board (LSCSB). By working collaboratively public service organisations can share, expertise, ideas and resources and cost for mutual benefit.

Proposed Changes to the LSCSB Terms of Reference

8. Subject to approval it is proposed that the LSCSB Terms of reference are amended as follows:
 - a. Rutland County Council be added to the Board’s membership.
 - b. The name of the Board is amended to ‘The Leicestershire & Rutland Safer Communities Strategy Board (LRSCSB).
 - c. The Chair of the new LRSCSB will be the Leicestershire County Council lead member for Safer Communities, and the Vice-Chair will be the Rutland County Council lead member for Safer Communities.

Additional Considerations

9. The Rutland County Council membership of the LSCSB will, it is proposed, necessitate a number of additional ancillary changes, including;
 - (a) A modification to the name of the Board to ‘The Leicestershire and

Rutland Safer Communities Strategy Board’.

- (b) Changes to the Board Terms of Reference to reflect the additional membership including changes to arrangements to appoint the Chair and Deputy Chair to the Board. A copy of the draft amended terms of reference is attached (appendix 1).
- (c) The Community Safety Agreement (CSA) is a ‘County’ level document setting out the ways the responsible authorities in the county might work more effectively to implement the identified priorities by joint working. The ‘Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007’ require each county area to formulate one, so both Leicestershire and Rutland CC will be required to publish separate documents. The Leicestershire County Council CSA will reference Rutland CC membership of the Board and where relevant incorporate reference to Rutland CC shared priorities.
- (d) Incorporation of Rutland key performance indicator datasets on the Board online performance dashboard and include these within the standing performance reporting framework to Board.

10. Both Leicestershire County Council and Rutland Council’s respective Cabinets have considered and agreed the proposal subject to the Board’s approval.

Recommendations

- 11. The Board are asked to consider the contents of this report and the proposal that Rutland County Council become members of the Board, and are asked to;
 - (a) Approve Rutland CC membership of the Board;
 - (b) Approve progressing the additional matters as detailed at 8 (a) – (d) or indicate amendments required to proposed actions;
 - (c) Approve the LRSCSB Terms of Reference as set out in Appendix 1.

Officers to Contact

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Appendix 1 – Draft LRSCSB Terms of Reference

APPENDIX 1
LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND SAFER COMMUNITIES'
STRATEGY BOARD

Terms of Reference and Membership

1. Purpose

The Leicestershire and Rutland Safer Communities Strategy Board (LRSCSB) will oversee and co-ordinate the implementation and delivery of Leicestershire Community Safety Partnership and Rutland County Council priorities requested by the Board including coordination of the Police and Crime Plan.

The priorities include, reducing offending and re-offending, substance-related crime and disorder, protecting those considered to be most vulnerable in the community, reducing anti-social behaviour and increasing public confidence in local crime and disorder services.

The Board will lead the strategic approach to Safer Communities in Leicestershire and Rutland Counties and encourage agencies and partnerships to work jointly and collaboratively. The Board will also, where appropriate, encourage sharing of resources, to deliver Safer Communities common priorities and statutory responsibilities/duties, for example in relation to Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR's) and 'PREVENT'.

2. Role and Responsibilities

- To provide strategic leadership in delivering Safer Communities priorities across Leicestershire and Rutland.
- To develop joint approaches to community safety and encourage collaborative working across agencies and partnerships in Leicestershire and Rutland.
- To prepare a Community Safety Agreement for the county and promote and support the principles underpinning it. Ensuring where appropriate this also incorporates shared community safety priorities from Rutland County Council.
- To facilitate greater alignment between Community Safety Partnerships and other bodies and structures with community safety responsibilities, including Rutland County council, the work of the Substance Misuse Board, Safeguarding Board and Health and Well-being Board.

3. Membership of the Board

The Board comprises representatives from the County Council, Rutland County Council, each of the seven District Community Safety Partnerships, the OPCC, the Local Policing Directorate Commander - Leicestershire Police, Leicestershire CCGs, the National Probation Service and Combined Fire Authority.

The membership of the Leicestershire Safer Communities Strategy Board (the Board) is detailed in Table 1 below. In addition, Leicester City Council are invited as “guests” i.e., participating observers with no voting rights.

4. Chairing Arrangements

The Chair of the LRSCSB will be the Leicestershire County Council lead member for Safer Communities and the Vice-Chair will be the Rutland County Council lead member for Safer Communities.

5. Substitute Members

Substitute members may be nominated as follows, for -

Leicestershire County Council's Cabinet Lead Member, another elected member from that Authority.

Rutland County Council Cabinet Lead Member, another elected member from that Authority.

The CSP Strategy Groups - any other member of that CSP Strategy Group (i.e. a senior officer not necessarily an elected member).

Leicestershire Police, any other appropriate officer.

Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service, any other member of that authority.

The Providers of Probation Services, any other appropriate officer.

The Leicestershire Integrated Care Board, any other appropriate officer.

Public Health, any other appropriate officer.

Leicestershire County Council Assistant Director Targeted Early Help and Children's Social Care, any other appropriate officer.

OPCC, or any other appropriate officer.

** Substitute members shall have voting rights in these circumstances only.

6. Operational Arrangements

The Board will meet at least quarterly.

The quorum for meetings of the Board will be a minimum of 6 voting members, this to include representatives from a minimum of 3 different partner agencies.

The Board may co-opt additional members when required to help progress specific areas of work.

The work of the Board will be supported by a Senior Officer Group and secretariat support will be provided by Leicestershire County Council's Democratic Services section.

7. Voting by the Board

In accordance with the Crime and Disorder (Formulation and Implementation of Strategy) Regulations 2007 (as amended in 2011) voting on Community Safety Agreement is limited to the responsible authorities as identified in Section 5 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, who are represented on the Board.

These representatives are identified by an asterisk in Table 1 below. On all other matters all members of the Board are entitled to vote.

8. Senior Officer Group

The Senior Officer Group (SOG) will -

- support the work of Board, as outlined in the above Terms of Reference
- develop the agenda and prepare papers for all Board meetings
- take forward actions from Board meetings

Table 1 - LSCSB Membership

<p><u>Representing</u></p> <p>Leicestershire County Council Cabinet Lead Member*</p> <p>Community Safety Partnerships (1 elected member representative per district area)</p> <p>Blaby*</p> <p>Charnwood*</p> <p>Harborough*</p> <p>Hinckley and Bosworth*</p> <p>Melton*</p> <p>North West Leicestershire*</p> <p>Oadby and Wigston*</p> <p>Rutland CC</p> <p>Leicester City Council</p> <p>Leicestershire Police*</p> <p>Police & Crime Commissioner</p>

Leics. Fire & Rescue Service

The Fire Authority*

Integrated Care Board

National Probation Service

Public Health

County Council Assistant Director, Education and Early Help *

**members entitled to vote on the Community Safety Agreement (see 'Voting by the Board' at section 6).*

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