

# Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda  
Item No.

Report of Chief Executive  
to  
Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee

On 12<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Report prepared by:  
Fiona Abbott

---

**In depth scrutiny review  
Additional Enforcement Resources for Southend  
A Part 1 Agenda Item**

---

## 1. Purpose of Report

To present the draft report of the scrutiny project – ‘Additional Enforcement Resources for Southend’.

## 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the report and conclusions from the in depth scrutiny project, detailed at Section 4 be agreed.
- 2.2 That in accordance with Scrutiny Procedure Rule 10 (part 4 (e) of the Constitution), to agree that the Chairman of the Project Team present the report to a future Cabinet meeting.

## 3. Background

- 3.1 At the meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> July 2017, the Committee agreed that its in depth project for the current municipal year would be on the following – ‘Additional Enforcement Resources for Southend’ (Minute 187 refers). The Committee agreed that it would continue with the joint scrutiny review undertaken in 2016/17 on enforcement resources for Southend-on-Sea<sup>1</sup>.
- 3.2 The reason for this decision was because the topic is such an important one and had not yet reached conclusion and that the aim would be to focus on looking at more effective enforcement, costings and work to establish some form of borough-wide uniformed presence.
- 3.3 The Project Team comprised the following Members – Councillor B Ayling (Chairman), Councillors B Arscott, D Burzotta, M Davidson, D Garston, I Gilbert, R Hadley, M Stafford and C Willis. Officer support was provided by Carl Robinson, Simon Ford, Fiona Abbott and Beverley Gallacher.
- 3.4 The Project Team considered the Council’s role in providing an enhanced enforcement presence across Southend in respect of anti-social behaviour, support to high footfall events and anticipated busy days such as Bank Holidays,

---

<sup>1</sup> A copy of the report is available on the internet on the following link – [additional enforcement for Southend-on-Sea](#)

and how any additional resource would integrate with existing and proposed resources in the Southend Community Safety Hub to tackle and solve problems in areas affected by anti-social behaviour and crime, in partnership with other services.

- 3.5 The Project Team held 4 meetings in total. In support of the review, Officers visited Guildford Council in October 2017 to see how they tackle issues and how they organise their enforcement resources. They have also visited the London Borough of Southwark to consider their partnership tasking process and enforcement team set up.
- 3.6 During the scrutiny review, the Project Team was made aware about how the project 'fits' into other work being undertaken including the strategic review of the Community Safety Partnership and other Strategic Boards review as well as the developing proposals for the Southend Community Safety Hub.

#### **4. Scrutiny Review – conclusions and recommendations**

- 4.1 The conclusions and recommendations from the review are set out below. These were discussed by the Project Team at its meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> March 2018.
- 4.2 It should be noted that approval of any recommendations with budget implications will require consideration as part of future years' budget processes prior to implementation.
- 4.3 The Scrutiny Committee is recommended to endorse the following conclusions from the review, for approval by Cabinet:
  - 4.3.1 It was concluded that additional resource was required to provide an enhanced enforcement presence in Southend. **Appendix 1** details the proposed new Community Safety Team which includes a Team Leader and six Community Safety Officers under the remit of the Group Manager Community Safety.
  - 4.3.2 It was concluded that any additional enforcement resource be integrated into the Community Safety Hub to provide a key response, alongside partners, to the Community Safety Partnership and other strategic partnership priorities across Southend (see **Appendix 2**).

#### **5. Corporate Implications**

- 5.1 Contribution to Council's Vision and Critical Priorities – Becoming an excellent and high performing organisation.
- 5.2 Financial Implications – the recommendations if agreed will need to go through the annual budgetary process before implementation, as currently no revenue or capital budgets exist for the proposals.

The proposed new Community Safety Team is estimated to cost in the region of £200,000 p.a. to implement with the structure proposed in **Appendix 1**.

Some existing posts will be integrated into the new team, as well as some additional budget requirement.

- 5.3 Legal Implications – none.
- 5.4 People Implications – none.
- 5.5 Property Implications – none.
- 5.6 Consultation – as described in report.
- 5.7 Equalities Impact Assessment – none.
- 5.8 Risk Assessment – none.

## **6. Background Papers**

Notes from project team meetings.

## **7. Appendices**

**Appendix 1** – Proposed New Community Safety Team Structure Chart

**Appendix 2** – Revised Community Safety Partnership Board and Strategic Boards Model