

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Neighbourhoods & Community Services Scrutiny

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WARD(S): All

PART I **FOR COMMENT AND CONSIDERATION**

FIVE YEAR PLAN OUTCOME 4 – **SLOUGH WILL BE ONE OF THE SAFEST PLACES IN THE THAMES VALLEY**

1. **Purpose of Report**

To provide an update of the theme of enabling and preventing from the Five Year Plan and specifically Outcome 4: Slough will be one of the safest places in the Thames Valley.

2. **Recommendation**

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is requested to take note and comment on the activity that is being done to support delivery of this part of the Five Year Plan; for Slough to be one of the safest places in the Thames Valley.

3. **The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan**

3.1 **Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities**

The Five Year Plan relates to all aspects of the Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy's (SJWS) priorities and cross-cutting themes as set out below.

Priorities:

- Safer Communities – Outcome 4 is specifically related to this priority and has potential impact upon the remaining priorities of
 - Health
 - Economy and Skills
 - Regeneration and Environment
 - Housing

Cross-Cutting themes: Activities through enabling and preventing in the Five Year Plan relating to the safety of slough are strongly linked to both

- Civic responsibility and
- Improving the image of the town

The SJWS is due to be refreshed this year and the review will be carried out in the light of the direction of the Five Year Plan.

The Five Year Plan has been developed using the evidence base of the JSNA and the Slough Story and the Safer Slough Partnership Strategic Assessment.

3.2 **Five Year Plan Outcomes**

The outcome discussed in this report is:

- Slough will be one of the safest places in the Thames Valley

It is recognised that there are strong connections and interdependencies between Five Year Plan Outcomes and that delivery of the Outcome 4 activities impacts upon other Five Year Plan priorities.

4. **Other Implications**

(a) Financial

The Five Year Plan will be used to determine the Council's spending priorities from 2016/17. This process was started during 2015/16 including identifying savings and/or increases in income generation.

(b) Risk Management

Risk	Mitigating action	Opportunities
Legal		
Property		
Human Rights		
Health and Safety		
Employment Issues		
Equalities Issues		
Community Support		
Communications	Agencies work together to deliver consistent messages	A wider understanding of Slough's relative safety is promoted.
Community Safety	Outcome 4 activities will closely support the key priorities of the Safer Slough Partnership	The Five Year Plan provides a structure to focus our resources
Financial	Delivery is based upon a multi-agency approach to agree priorities and share resources	The Five Year Plan will provide a mechanism to make budget decisions from 2016/17.
Project Capacity	The work of existing groups such as the Safer Slough Partnership is fully utilised to support delivery rather than establishing new groups	

(c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

There are no direct legal implications. The specific activity in the Five Year Plan and plans for specific outcomes may have legal implications which will be considered when required. There are no Human Rights Act Implications.

(d) Equalities Impact Assessment

Equality Impact Assessments will be prepared for specific actions within the plan when required.

5. Supporting Information

- 5.1 Slough Borough Council's Five Year Plan contains three themes. This report will focus on part of the second theme of Enabling and Preventing and one of three outcomes within that theme; ' Slough will be one of the safest places in the Thames Valley'
- 5.2 As a local authority whilst we can't control all crime and the perception of how safe people feel about where they live, we can use our focussed resources and strong influence with strategic partners to shift further towards multi-agency interventions that deal with the higher risks in Slough – violent crime especially linked to alcohol misuse and ASB, the perception of safety in the town, whilst supporting our community cohesion.
- 5.3 The activities to deliver Outcome 4 are outlined in Appendix A and are based around existing partnerships and forums such as the Safer Slough Partnership and the Members Community Cohesion Group, their priorities and associated action plans. Members have a key role to play within these existing groups to support a multi-agency partnership approach to help ensure success with Outcome 4, within the resources that are available or which are obtained through related income generation or specialist grant funding.
- 5.4 Slough is already safer than Reading, Oxford & Milton Keynes and the promotion of the town as a safe place is critical to how people feel about living here. It is also an essential factor that is considered by businesses who are thinking of relocating to the town; perception of safety has an impact upon economic development of the town
- 5.5 The relationship that Outcome 4 has with the other outcomes is significant. The success of our work in Outcome 4 impacts upon other Outcomes which in turn affect levels of crime and ASB and also the perception of crime, for example:
 - We know that poor, overcrowded housing conditions and increase ASB and can impact upon Domestic Abuse
 - Safeguarding concerns of both vulnerable adults and children can lead to criminal activity such as CSE and trafficking
 - Alcohol misuse is a significant factor in violent crime including sexual assaults and increased vulnerability
 - The creation of a vibrant town centre will partly depend on our ability to control levels of crime and disorder
 - Businesses will be more likely to move their staff here if the real, or their perceived image is of a low crime, safe town.

- 5.6 Outcome 4 is led by Roger Parkin, Strategic Director for CCS and a Delivery Group of officers from across the council. Highlight progress reports are prepared each month which also identify risks. Appendix B shows the Outcome 4 Highlight Report for December 2015.
- 5.7 Significant activity completed, underway and planned to support Outcome 4 are detailed in Appendix A and include a review of the Safer Slough Partnership delivery structures and a new strategy based upon a refreshed Strategic Assessment.
- 5.8 The performance measures that indicate success for Outcome 4 are shown in a balanced score card which is currently under review and includes data on 'all crime' per population, domestic abuse and anti-social behaviour incident rates and repeat cases, numbers of awareness training courses, road safety and information from the Families First programme.

6. **Comments of Other Committees**

This report has not been an agenda item for other Committees.

7. **Conclusion**

The Five Year Plan Outcome 4 provides the framework and focussed resources for the Council to enable further partnership and multi-agency working with partners to reduce crime and disorder and promote the safety of Slough.

8. **Appendices Attached**

'A' - Outcome 4 Actions and Update

'B' - Highlight Report for Outcome 4 December 2015

9. **Background Papers**

Five Year Plan 2015 – 2019