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# Public Protection Business Plan 2023/24 – Summary Report

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<b>Committee considering report:</b>	Joint Public Protection Committee
<b>Date of Committee:</b>	26 January 2023
<b>Portfolio Member:</b>	Councillor Tom Marino
<b>Report Author:</b>	Sean Murphy
<b>Forward Plan Ref:</b>	JPPC

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## 1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 Identify the relevant details of the Inter Authority Agreement (IAA) and sets out how the PPP intends to operate through the delivery of the Service Plan.

## 2 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Committee (subject to any amendments) **APPROVE** the Service Plan.

## 3 Implications and Impact Assessment

Implication	Commentary
<b>Financial:</b>	If approved the Business Plan will set out a framework for effective use of the revenue budget allocated to PPP by the partner authorities in delivering the functions. The base revenue budget for 2023/24 stands at £3.3M with a projected income of £600K. Challenges around budget and income are dealt with in the report and Business Plan.
<b>Human Resource:</b>	Appended to the Service Plan is the latest Workforce Strategy which sets out the service approach to recruitment and resourcing of staffing. The approach is built around recruitment of Level 4 Apprentices and developing existing staff to Level 6 or through other qualification routes.  The current establishment for the service is also set out in Business Plan along with the structure.

<b>Legal:</b>	<p>The IAA that set up the Public Protection Partnership effectively delegates responsibility for the strategic direction of the joint service to the Public Protection Joint Committee. The responsibilities of the committee are set out in Schedule 1 to the agreement.</p> <p>The consideration and approval of the Business Plan is part of the fulfilling of the obligation of the Committee to set strategic direction for the service.</p>			
<b>Risk Management:</b>	The Business Plan has appended to it the current risk matrix for the service.			
<b>Property:</b>	No implications at this stage.			
<b>Policy:</b>	If approved the Business Plan and associated policies would set out the over-arching delivery model for the service. It includes key policy principles, establishes how decisions will be made on service priorities, performance monitoring and budget and other resource management. It also sets out the delivery ethos for the service including aim, objectives and values.			
	<b>Positive</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Negative</b>	<b>Commentary</b>
<b>Equalities Impact:</b>				
<b>A</b> Are there any aspects of the proposed decision, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could impact on inequality?		X		

<b>B</b> Will the proposed decision have an impact upon the lives of people with protected characteristics, including employees and service users?		X		
<b>Environmental Impact:</b>	X			The proposals in the Business Plan will have a positive impact.
<b>Health Impact:</b>	X			Consider whether the proposal will have any health impact. Provide details here.
<b>ICT Impact:</b>		X		The Business Plan sets out the ICT implications and further ICT support will be needed.
<b>Consultation and Engagement:</b>	Joint Management Team			

## 4 Executive Summary

- 4.1 The IAA at Schedule 5 sets out the initial priorities identified by the Councils along with the strategic aims of the service. This Business Plan sets out how the service will be delivered to ensure the priorities are addressed.
- 4.2 The initial key priority areas identified for the service are community protection; protection and improving health; protection of the environment; supporting prosperity and economic growth and the delivery of effective and improving service. There is a strong emphasis on prioritisation of those areas with the highest detriment and protection of our most vulnerable residents. The Strategic Assessment (approved by this Committee in September 2021) and Work Plan (approved in December 2021) set out how the priorities will be delivered on a practical level.
- 4.3 At the heart of delivering effective and improving services is the implementation of the National Intelligence Model. This model is designed to identify the key areas of delivery against identified priorities. This is developed through a control strategy that considers how each priority area can be tackled using three areas of intervention namely prevention, intelligence and enforcement. It is often the case that all three will be deployed to tackle a specific area of detriment e.g. doorstep crime, neighbourhood nuisance, licensing matters etc.
- 4.4 Another key area of delivery is through partnership working. The Business Plan sets out a range of partners we intend to work with. These include internal partners such as Adult Social Care, Housing and Public Health as well as external partners such as the police,

fire and rescue service and other local authorities. This links back to the sharing of information and intelligence which is crucial to the effective and efficient delivery of the service. It is also important to work closely with partners to ensure that further efficiencies can be derived and to ensure that those in need of support and assistance get the support and assistance they need.

## 5 Supporting Information

### Background

- 5.1 The Public Protection Partnership commenced on the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017. It is now a little over six years old as a service with an end date of 2027. Initially a three authority service with Bracknell, West Berkshire and Wokingham, a decision was made by Wokingham to leave the Partnership on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. On the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 the partnership entered into a new shared delivery service with Wokingham for the delivery of a range of services including trading standards, case management, intelligence, financial investigations and air quality.
- 5.2 The development of this latest Business Plan follows three challenging years for the service. Two were dominated by the operational response to Covid19 across all three areas which saw the service operate on seven day basis for twenty-two months followed by our part in the delivery of the Homes for Ukraine Scheme and the response to the cost of living challenges. Amidst all of this Wokingham exited the Partnership after eleven years for joint working arrangements including the original shared service.
- 5.3 Looking ahead the service now faces immediate and longer term challenges. We have a significant loss of licensing income from our 2019/20 base which is estimated this year to be on the order of £150k-£180K. Some of this income was falling before the pandemic but undoubtedly the pandemic hastened the decline. The service has only managed to cover this through vacancies and grant funding for other areas of work such as investigations and Homes for Ukraine. This leads on to the second major challenge. The Business Plan sets out our approach to manage both issues.
- 5.4 The Business Plan before the Committee today also produces the 'high level' risk matrix, the agreed performance measures and the 'Workforce Strategy'. Additionally it references other key documents previously approved by the Committee including the current Strategic Assessment, Work Delivery Plan, Communication Strategy and Training and Development Plan in turn presenting a comprehensive summary of service provision for the Committee.
- 5.5 Members of the Committee will receive regular updates on service delivery and performance whilst Members across the Councils will receive regular updates from the service as well as the opportunity to hold the service to account through overview and scrutiny mechanisms.
- 5.6 Finally, the Councils have achieved so much through the delivery of shared protective services. Residents and legitimate businesses enjoy high levels of protection through the effective communication aimed at allowing them to make informed choices but also the effective use of enforcement and deployment of critical mass and expertise. In 2016 the Councils received a business case for the development of the shared service. All

elements of the business case have been achieved but some like staff recruitment and development will receive additional focus this year.

## 6 Recommendations

6.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

1. **NOTES** the challenges the service faces on 2023/24
2. **APPROVES** the draft Business Plan subject to any amendments
3. **RESOLVES** that the Committee receives regular reports on the implementation of the Business plan and associated policies and strategies.

## 7 Conclusion

7.1 The Joint Management Board considers the Service Plan to be the most effective way to progress the PPP and deliver against the objectives as stated in the IAA.

## 8 Appendices

8.1 Appendix A - Draft Business Plan

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