

Review Framework

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this paper is to outline the proposed framework together with an approximate timetable for conducting the *Working Together for Safer Communities* Review and to seek agreement in our approach in order to complete the review action plan (example at **Annex A**).

2. Background

2.1. The purpose, objectives and scope of the review were established by the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children in his statements to the National Assembly for Wales on 7 February and 9 March.

2.2 The Oversight Group terms of reference, mode of operation and membership are established following discussion and agreement of **Item 2**.

2.3 This draft review framework has previously been circulated to all originally proposed members of the Oversight Group for comments and feedback and this version therefore reflects many of the observation and comments gratefully received.

3. Framework

3.1 Following the establishment of the Oversight Group on 21 March, it is proposed to develop the review through six key phases, some of which can run concurrently, as follows:

- Community Safety Strategic Assessment & Planning Refresh
- Desktop review and analysis of existing evidence and data
- Consultation and submission of new evidence (including case studies)
- Formulation of recommendations based on findings
- Testing – or reality checking – draft recommendations
- Announcement of final recommendations

3.2 As agreed in the terms of reference, the review will utilise and rely on the Sustainable Development Principle, known as the Five Ways of Working, to examine current public service frameworks (including legislative and budgeting), structures, policies and processes. Lines of inquiry will be based on this approach.

3.3 The review will also seek to avoid the creation of a 'review industry' by maximising the use of existing resources and exploiting existing networks and structures, only adding if there are obvious gaps to be filled.

- 3.4 Two key ‘foundational’ pieces of work have already been commenced by Welsh Government’s Community Safety Division (CSD) and the review team – stakeholder mapping in preparation for the consultation phase and horizon scanning to provide the UK and Welsh legislative and policy context for future community safety partnership working. Stakeholder mapping will need to take account of the ‘strata’ involved in ‘working together for safer communities’ as the input will need to come from operational and strategic levels, from ‘citizens’, from local, regional and national and from practitioners, policy makers and academics.
- 3.5 Oversight Group members are encouraged to actively support the review team in conducting both foundational aspects by:
- Identifying the broad spectrum of who needs to be involved, engaged and consulted during the review process (particularly ‘citizens’ – e.g. via faith & cohesion networks, BME networks, LGBT networks, Victims Forums, PACTs, Police & Crime Panels, youth forums, neighbourhood watch groups, service user groups, etc.);
 - Highlighting emerging or proposed legislative or policy developments and their potential impact on the future of community safety partnership working in Wales.
- 3.6 Appropriate ‘citizen’ engagement and involvement tools and methods will need to be developed and consideration given to the appropriate points of interaction. For instance, this could include a desktop review of PSB citizen involvement feedback within the initial phase, ‘expert by experience’ or service user involvement in the consultation phase.
- 3.7 A paper outlining the detailed methodologies and tools recommended for undertaking the six phases of the review is provided at **Item 4**. The Oversight Group will need to consider any potential resource requirements involved and how best to meet them.
- 3.8 The final recommendations put forward by the Oversight Group to the Cabinet Secretary for Communities and Children as the basis for an Autumn Statement to the National Assembly for Wales is likely to prompt a further and more detailed work programme involving, for example, legislative changes, budget and programme re-alignments, the preparation and publishing of statutory or other guidance. It is also likely to attract scrutiny from relevant Assembly committee processes, not least from the Public Accounts Committee which has already taken an active interest in Welsh Government’s response to the Auditor General’s 2016 *Community Safety in Wales* Report. The Oversight Group will need to be mindful of these implications arising from the review process itself and how best to manage them – including planning for effective communications and risk management.

4. Proposed Timetable

4.1 It is proposed that the following outline timetable for the six phases is agreed:

Month(s)	Activities
March	Finalise the methodologies and tools, including 'lines of inquiry'; identify and secure any necessary additional resources; complete stakeholder mapping exercise; commence desktop review/analysis and horizon scanning; develop communication & consultation tools and methods; finalise action plan.
April	Formally launch review and publish documentation (lines of inquiry), communicate via existing and established networks and raise awareness, stimulate engagement and participation in the review.
May-August	Outreach and gather evidence & feedback; analyse and draft findings & recommendations; plan and promote final series of regional events.
September	Publish draft findings & recommendations; host final series of regional multi-agency 'reality check' roadshow events; report back to key strategic forums.
October	Finalise review & recommendations, draft and agree Autumn Ministerial Statement.
November	Autumn Ministerial Statement to Plenary; publication of final report and recommendations; commence drafting any necessary legislation, guidance etc.
December	Implementation phase.

5. Action Plan

5.1 It is proposed that the draft Action Plan be completed and adopted by the Oversight Group following consideration and agreement of recommendations within the 'Proposed Methodologies' paper at **Item 4**.

6. Recommendation

6.1 That Oversight Group members endorse the review framework as outlined in **sections 3** and **4** above.