

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE - 10 September 2001

REPORT ON: PUBLIC PROTECTION FRAMEWORK

REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

REPORT NO: 603-2001

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To inform members of the development of a framework which is designed to reinforce the commitment of Dundee City Council, Tayside Police and other agencies to tackling the shared problem of potentially dangerous offenders who are living in the community.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Policy & Resources Committee:-

- 2.1 Approve the content of the framework document and request a further update on the work of the Public Protection Forum within a year.
- 2.2 Authorise the Chief Executive to sign the framework document on behalf of Dundee City Council

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

4.0 AGENDA 21

This framework contributes to ensuring that people live without fear of personal violence from crime or because of their personal beliefs, race, gender or sexuality.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

There are no equal opportunities arising from this report

6.0 MAIN TEXT

Dundee Public Protection Forum was established as a result of guidance issued following the Sex Offender Act 1997 and Dundee City Council's Community Safety Strategy. The recent report by Lady Cosgrove – "Reducing the Risk – Improving the response to sex offending" (Report 518-2001) also recommended that local authorities establish multi-agency forums.

The key functions of the forum are to;

- Develop, implement and monitor practice and policy in respect of potentially dangerous offenders including making links to current emerging national policies and therefore make a significant contribution to the community safety of Dundee.
- Monitor the implementation and application of procedures and practice designed to identify, assess and manage Potentially Dangerous Offenders as well as review those cases acknowledged as containing good or bad practice and develop policies accordingly

The Public Protection Forum is chaired by Tayside Police and has representation from Social Work, Housing, Education, Neighbourhood Resources and Development as well as Support Services, the Scottish Reporters Administration and the Procurator Fiscal.

Members of the Forum have developed a framework which combines the roles and responsibilities of each agency in the assessment and management of risk to ensure that information shared helps increase public safety. This is illustrated on page 28 of the framework which shows the flowchart for processing information, which will lead to a number of key actions being taken to minimise risk.

The framework also sets out an action plan for the next twelve months which includes the development of a public relations strategy, a training plan, and update of the framework following the introduction of new legislation next year.

A copy of the framework document has been placed in the members lounge. A copy has also been sent to each Group Secretary.

7.0 CONSULTATION

Consultation has taken place with the Director of Support Services, Director of Social Work, Director of Neighbourhood Resources and Development, Director of Education and the Director of Housing.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information), were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

9.0 SIGNATURE

Chief Executive

Date

3 September 2001