

## Proposed intervention: Working together to build safer communities

*Officers recently met with the LGA's lead community safety advisers as part of the re-scoping exercise for the community safety intervention. The re-scoping exercise is based around the themes from People and Places and recognises the importance of influencing the Comprehensive Spending Review 2007 (CSR07) and the development of new legislation.*

*It is proposed that the People and Places themes for the new intervention are:*

- 1. Local Area Agreements (LAAs)*
- 2. Accountability and governance*
- 3. Service redesign and improvement*

### Themes and priority work streams

#### 1. Local Area Agreements

- Monitor and influence any future LAA targets for the safer and stronger block to ensure flexibility for local targets for local areas and in the context of the 30 national outcomes;*
- Investigate ways to develop the role of the voluntary and community sector in community safety as representative and delivery bodies;*
- Work with a coalition of public and voluntary sector organisations in the criminal justice sphere to produce a publication highlighting the potential of local authorities and LAAs to reduce re-offending, and lobby the government accordingly.*

#### 2. Strengthening accountability and governance

- Ensure the Community Call for Action is workable for local authorities;*
- Ensure that the extension of the role of overview and scrutiny is adequately resourced and enhances the community leadership role of local government;*
- Ensure the strategic/operational split for CDRPs is workable;*
- Enhance the role of elected members in neighbourhood policing;*
- Develop the community leadership role of local government relating to community safety;*
- Ensure inspections carried out by the new Inspectorate for Justice, Community Safety and Custody are aligned with the proposed new performance framework for localities from 2008 and works efficiently with the Audit Commission without duplication.*

#### 3. Service redesign and improvement

- Promote the leading role of local authorities in reducing re-offending;*
- Influence the facilitation of information sharing and the adoption of National Intelligence Model principles for local authorities;*

- *Encourage local authority adoption of the messages in Going Straight;*
- *Support local authorities and their partners to provide the range of services needed to prevent re-offending;*
- *Influence the impact of the Respect agenda on local authorities.*

#### **4. Comprehensive Spending Review 2007**

- *Ensure that any new burdens for community safety such as neighbourhood policing and the community call for action are adequately funded.*

*There are two cross cutting themes that will run throughout the work streams:*

- *developing and promoting the community and political leadership role of local government, and,*
- *community cohesion.*

#### **Strategic relationships**

*To achieve the objectives of the intervention work will be carried out to develop more strategic relationships with the Home Office and other stakeholders such as ACPO. This will include input to the Central Local Partnership sub group on safer communities that is being set up.*

#### **Intervention team**

*The intervention team will consist of policy consultants at the LGA, LGA media, and public affairs officers, LGA research officers, officers from the Improvement and Development Agency and local authority advisers.*

Contact Officer: Emma Varley, [emma.varley@lga.gov.uk](mailto:emma.varley@lga.gov.uk), 020 7664 3237