

**HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**THURSDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2002 AT 10.30 AM**

**Agenda Item No:**

**11**

**POLICY STATEMENT ON CRIME & DISORDER REDUCTION**

*Report of the County Secretary considered by the Cabinet on 19 November 2001*

Report Author: David Roberts (Tel: 01992 555562)

Executive Member: Derrick Ashley

**1. Purpose of the report**

To seek Council approval to a policy statement on ‘Crime and Disorder Reduction’ which forms part of the Council’s Policy Framework.

**2. Background**

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires local authorities and the police, together with other key agencies and the community, to work together to develop and implement strategies for reducing crime and disorder in their area. The strategies are to be produced for each district in the county, rather than for the county as a whole.

In February of this year the Council’s Crime Reduction Unit was established. The Unit has a staff of three, with the head of unit reporting to the County Secretary. Its remit is to ensure that the Council’s statutory obligations, as contained in the Act, are effectively discharged.

The Crime Reduction Panel has examined a proposed policy statement on crime and disorder reduction and recommends to Cabinet that it be forwarded to the full Council for approval. The statement is attached as an Appendix.

Cabinet considered the matter at its meeting on 19 November 2001 and resolved:

“That the policy statement on Crime and Disorder Reduction be recommended to the County Council for approval”

**3. Conclusion**

The Council needs to decide whether to adopt the policy statement.

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# Hertfordshire County Council's Crime & Disorder Reduction Policy Statement

The Crime & Disorder Act 1998 placed new obligations on local authorities and the police to co-operate in the development and implementation of a strategy for tackling and reducing crime and disorder in their area.

The County Council's priorities will be:

- To work with partner agencies to deliver an environment in which our residents, visitors and businesses can reasonably feel safer
- To assist partner agencies in developing community safety strategies that can achieve a visible improvement in the quality of life for our communities
- To support a multi-agency approach to achieve a reduction in both the incidence of crime & disorder and fear of crime
- To contribute towards improving the level of intelligence/information that can be made available to crime reduction partnerships and to spread good practice
- To agree with partners the range of targets that can realistically be established in order to achieve measurable reductions in the incidents of crime.
- To assist all the council's services to understand how they can contribute towards achieving a reduction in both crime and the fear of crime
- To seek to maximise funding opportunities so that local crime reduction partnerships have the resources to operate effectively
- To design and implement effective strategies to reduce the incidence of youth crime and disorder and prevent young people getting into trouble
- To promote more effective communication with 'hard to reach' groups and to ensure that their concerns are taken into consideration

This policy statement will contribute to the Council's promises by making Hertfordshire a better place to live and a prosperous place to work.