



DEVON & SOMERSET FIRE & RESCUE AUTHORITY

REPORT REFERENCE NO.	CSCP/10/4
MEETING	COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CORPORATE PLANNING COMMITTEE
DATE OF MEETING	25 MARCH 2010
SUBJECT OF REPORT	FURTHER UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK & OTHER EVALUATION TOOLS
LEAD OFFICER	Director of Service Delivery
RECOMMENDATIONS	<i>That the further progress made on the review of the Partnership Framework be noted, along with the progress on other evaluation processes.</i>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	<p>The successful introduction of the Partnership Framework has been supplemented with the commissioning of a full review of the Framework and sampling of one existing partnership and one proposed partnership. IDeA has been commissioned to carry out both the review and the sampling exercise. The framework has now been reviewed and amended in light of feedback.</p> <p>In addition, further evaluation tools have now been developed that will meet a number of DSFRS needs.</p>
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	N/A
EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT	<p>Not applicable</p> <p>The review and sampling will inform the partnership arrangements the Service undertakes with our communities and are intended to improve community engagement, as well as helping to inform the Service on the effectiveness of its activities</p>
APPENDICES	None
LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS	None

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Committee has received regular reports received setting out the progress made on the partnership framework review. To date, the recommendations of the review have now been incorporated into the framework.
- 1.2 The revised framework has been made available to staff for use in advance of the formal re-launch on May 17th 2010.
- 1.3 The Committee has also been made aware of the intent to conduct IDeA-led reviews of the current Torbay Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and the Services' proposed partnership with the Probation Service in the Exeter area. These reviews are now taking place and the outcomes will be reported to the Committee in due course.

2. FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS & WORK

- 2.1 The evaluation tools contained within the partnership framework are essentially designed for the evaluation of the Authority's more strategic engagement work and are potentially onerous for the evaluation of more tactical and "local" activities. Notwithstanding that, there is a clear internal and external need to ensure that the Authority is evaluating all of its Community Safety activities to ensure effective use of resources.
- 2.2 To that end, an "activity" evaluation strategy, policy and process has now been developed for implementation. This process will ensure that all activities outside the scope of the partnership framework are fully and effectively evaluated before commencement, during delivery, and on cessation of activities. This review process will facilitate the Authority in making decisions regarding use of resources by fully understanding those activities which are delivering the required outcomes and those that are not so effective. As with the Partnership framework, the activity evaluation process contains an evaluation of Equality and Diversity outcomes and assesses the delivery of the "Making the Connections" work strands. The Activity Evaluation processes will be formally launched alongside the Partnership framework re-launch on the 17 May 2010. Embedded in both processes is the requirement to produce a single-page briefing sheet. Applying the COUNT (**C**ollect **O**nce, **U**se **N**umerous **T**imes) principles, these briefing sheets will be used within the Service to meet a number of needs including:
 - Providing information to all Members/Officers on the range of activities the Service is involved in
 - To share good practice internally on what works and what doesn't
 - To provide a structured and systematic method of information and data collection for external and peer audit and review.
 - To enable, where appropriate, effective and timely press releases and journal articles to be produced
 - To provide information for the national EFACTS software (measuring the progress of Equality and Diversity agenda across all FRS in England).
 - To share good practice with other FRSs, key partners, potential clients and CFOA.

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