

Report of the Chief Executive**KNIFE CRIME ACTION PLAN 2020/22****1. Purpose of report**

To advise Committee of, and to seek approval for, a Knife Crime Action Plan.

2. Background

“Knife” crime, is defined as an offence where a knife/blade is used or threatened. It is a persistent and worrying concern, especially as it impacts particularly upon young people and the disadvantaged.

According to the College of Policing Knife Crime Evidence Briefing 2019, people carry knives predominantly for one of three reasons:

- Self protection & fear
- Self presentation - ‘respect’
- Utility – to rob or harm another

Figures for England and Wales in the year ending December 2019 (Office for National Statistics) showed a 7% rise in offences involving knives or sharp instruments recorded by the police in the year (to 45,627). This was 49% higher than when comparable recording began (year ending March 2011) and the highest on record. Further figures on the position nationally, regionally, and locally are given in appendix 1.

In Nottinghamshire, however, there has been a recent reduction in knife crime. The positive trend in Nottinghamshire’s figures shown in appendix 1 is probably due in no small part to the positive action Nottinghamshire police have taken on this issue, including a commitment to tackle the problem from the Police and Crime Commissioner, the creation of a county wide Knife Crime Strategy, and the positive step of appointing a senior officer at Superintendent level as the Knife Crime Strategy Manager.

While it is accepted that the police are the lead agency for prevention and reduction of knife crime, it is important that they are supported in their efforts to reduce the extent and impact of this type of crime by relevant partners such as the health care sector, charities, and local councils. Therefore, the attached Knife Crime Action Plan (appendix 2) represents actions which Broxtowe Borough Council can take to assist.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to RESOLVE that the Knife Crime Action Plan be approved.

Background papers

Nil