



LEIGHTON-LINSLADE TOWN COUNCIL

Community Safety Sub-Committee

Date: 1st April 2019

Title: Operation Dodford Framework Agreement

Purpose of the Report: To seek Member Endorsement in Respect of entering into a new Operation Dodford Framework Agreement for the Financial Year 2019/20.

Contact Officer: Mark Saccoccio, Town Clerk

Corporate Objective		To continue to support a vibrant town through partnership working and initiatives including management of the street market, support for local businesses, town and community promotions and town centre enhancements.
Implications:		
Financial	√	None- The Agreement would provide the mechanism in which the town council can prioritise future policing requirements.
Human Resources		
Operational/Service delivery	√	The Chair of Community Safety in conjunction with the Town Clerk have delegated powers to direct the police to town council priority areas.
Procedural/Legal	√	The Agreement accords with Section 92 of the Police Act 1996.

1. RECOMMENDATION

Should members be minded, the proposal is:

- 1.1 That the Town Council enters into a new Framework Agreement with Bedfordshire Police for the financial year 2019-20 and that the Chair and Vice-Chair of this Committee sign the Agreement on behalf of the Town Council.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 As Members are minded, the Town Council has in place a Framework Agreement with Bedfordshire Police. The Framework Agreement provides the mechanism that allows for targeted police services to be provided at the behest of the Town Council. As the client, the Town Council can instruct Bedfordshire Police to provide policing for its activities that may not otherwise be covered by “normal” policing activity as they are not considered an operational priority. For example, the twice weekly market and town events are policed by way of this agreement.
- 2.2 Whilst there has been much conjecture surrounding the merits or otherwise of paying for policing, the purpose of this report is not to discuss this. The purpose of this report is to consider the merits or otherwise in having in place an agreement with the police that allows:-
- i) The attendance of the Police at Community Safety meetings.
 - ii) To provide the mechanism that allows the police to share operational information with elected Members of the Council.
 - iii) The ability to challenge the Police in a structured meeting environment.
 - iv) The ability to target policing toward town council priority activities (which may not be considered a policing priority when compared to other competing policing priorities).
- 2.3 Operationally, the Police are aware of our core priority activities that include the market, town council run events and routine patrols of parks and facilities. By way of delegated powers, the Town Clerk in conjunction with the Chair of the Community Safety Committee can advise the Police should town council priorities change. Similarly, as a discretionary service, the town council can decide to reduce policing activity that it pays for should it see fit. However, as set out at para. 2.2, the merits as to how the agreement practically operates or otherwise is not the purpose of this report.

End.