

Chris Penberthy

Expression of Interest

Chair: Safer Plymouth

I have been a member of Safer Plymouth for 3 years as the nominated representative of Plymouth City Council. As Cabinet Member for Co-operatives, Housing and Community Safety the Leader of the Council has delegated executive responsibility for a range of areas including community safety and anti-social behaviour to me. I also represent Plymouth City Council on the Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel.

I was appointed Chair of Plymouth's Community Safety Partnership following changes to policing governance under the introduction of the Police and Crime Commissioner. Over this time we agreed with all former members a radical review of the way that the Community Safety Partnership works, this has been undertaken and:

- Membership has been totally refreshed to include greater community representation.
- A new vision has been drafted, consulted on and approved.
- Terms of Reference have been updated.
- We have become more transparent in our functioning with our papers now being made public.
- Our action plan is now linked to the Strategic Crime Assessment, which in turn is part of the Strategic Peninsula Crime Assessment used by the Police and Crime Commissioner to set his priorities (including his funding agreement with us).
- We have commenced a review of the way that our sub groups work and begun to look at how a systems leadership approach can assist us in working more effectively as a partnership.
- We are taking action to make our action plan increasingly a shared one, with targets and KPIs reflecting more fully all members of the partnership rather than predominantly Police and Council activity.

Safer Plymouth has taken substantial steps forward, but our journey has not yet come to an end. Building on what we have achieved over the past few years we need to do more to make sure that we deliver on our vision and action plan whilst ensuring that we become an increasingly strategic partnership. We also need to continue to work on improving our communications.

I believe that my role within the Council places me in a good position to Chair Safer Plymouth:

- The City Council is one of the 6 statutory members of the Partnership, and I have the executive lead for this.
- I have executive responsibility for and work closely with the Safer Plymouth team, hosted and funded by Plymouth City Council, ensuring that the work of the Council aligns with that of the partnership.
- I am able to influence other parts of the council executive on policy areas relating to the Safer Plymouth remit (such as safeguarding, licensing, environmental health, planning, CCTV).
- I am able to bring the perspectives of being both a Councillor/Cabinet Member and the Chair of Safer Plymouth to meetings of the Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Panel, adding weight and authority to the city's representation on this important committee; similarly I am one of only three members of the Police and Crime Panel who sits on the Peninsula Community Safety Partnership Chair's Group, adding an important link between the accountability and partnership work of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

I would like the opportunity to continue to Chair Safer Plymouth as we carry on developing our role and working practices in order that we can become an exemplary Community Safety Partnership.