

If you require this information in an alternate format, please contact the Accessibility Coordinator at [accessibility@northumberlandcounty.ca](mailto:accessibility@northumberlandcounty.ca) or 1-800-354-7050 ext. 2327



## **Report 2021-XX**

**Report Title: Community Safety and Wellbeing Advisory Committee Update**

**Committee Name: Social Services**

**Committee Meeting Date: May 5<sup>th</sup> 2021**

**Prepared by: Sarah Tanner, Manager Community Services**

**Reviewed by: Lisa Horne, Director, Community & Social Services**

**Strategic Plan Priorities: Thriving & Inclusive Communities**

---

### **Information Report**

---

#### **Purpose**

The following report will provide a summary update on the progress and activities of the Community Safety and Wellbeing Advisory Committee and development and preparation of the mandated Community Safety and Well-being plan required to the Province July 1<sup>st</sup> 2021

#### **Background**

The new legislative requirements related to Community Safety and Wellbeing planning came into force on January 1, 2019, as an amendment to the *Police Services Act, 1990* (PSA). The initial date for completion of the plan was January 2021 however this has been amended considering the pandemic and re-direction of resources. The new date for completion of the initial plan to be submitted to the province has been determined July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

The Community Safety and Well Being plan requires developing and implementing evidence-based strategies and programs to address local priorities (i.e., risk factors, vulnerable groups, protective factors) related to crime, safety and complex social issues on a sustainable basis.

## Consultations

A range of consultations was completed over the fall and winter of 2020/21, and included the following

- Service Provider Survey
- Community Perspective Survey
- Strategic Plan reviews and Network Inventories were completed
- Review of local, Regional and National Data was completed

The results of these consultations and surveys form the data set that supports the Advisory Committee being able to identify the top four priorities to enhance community safety and well-being in Northumberland. These four priorities include (i) Homelessness/Affordable Housing, (ii) Substance use/addictions, (iii) Poverty, Employment, and Income and finally (iv) Mental Health

The Community Services Manager and the Data Analysis Coordinator for Community and Social Services, has supported the integration of all relevant local and regional data such as crime, health and social services to coordinate and develop the Community Safety and Wellbeing plan priorities on behalf of all stakeholders across Northumberland. This information has been shared, reviewed, and discussed with Advisory Committee members.

The Community Safety and Wellbeing webpage has been developed and can be found at [Northumberland Community Safety and Well-being](#) and will be regularly updated to reflect the activities of the Committee and progress of the plan starting with implementation.

During the months of May and June, presentations have been planned to member municipalities and key stakeholders, including governing boards and organizations representing required service sectors.

## Legislative Authority/Risk Considerations

The legislative requirement for Community Safety and Well Being plans has come from the Police Services Act 2018 amendment which came into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019.

The responsibility to prepare and adopt a CSWB plan applies to:

- ▶ Single-tier municipalities;
- ▶ Lower-tier municipalities in the County of Oxford and in counties; and
- ▶ Regional municipalities, other than the County of Oxford.

## Discussion/Options

The development and implementation of a Northumberland County Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan will further enhance communication and collaboration among sectors, agencies and organizations and encourage increased understanding of and focus on local risks and vulnerable groups.

The County-wide plan will help to build on the modernization and transformation of service delivery, including realignment of resources and responsibilities to better respond to priorities

and needs in our community, thus reducing the financial impact of social determinants of health and crime.

## **Financial Impact**

It is anticipated that the financial impact to the Council of the Corporation of the County of Northumberland to lead the development of the plan within the legislated timeline incurs costs of staff time and minimal associated costs for consultation and administration.

Future costs are not yet determined and will need to be considered in relation to initial implementation of the plan over the next twelve months.

## **Member Municipality Impacts**

Lower tier Municipalities will continue to have critical influence on subsequent planning and implementation groups. The opportunity to share the objectives of the plan, which include facilitated collaboration, knowledge sharing, and improving access to services across Northumberland County. The plan runs on a four-year cycle, with the top four priorities aligned with goals, objectives, activities, and measurements. The collection and analysis of the data and reporting that will be required will be most effective and efficient on a County-wide basis.

## **Conclusion/Outcomes**

The creation of a Northumberland plan will help address identified risks and opportunities through evidence-based programs and strategies, focusing on social development, prevention, risk intervention and incident response.

It is recommended that this report along with the slide presentation be received for information. The final draft plan will be presented in its entirety at the June council seeking County Council approval at that time and forwarded onto the province.

## **Attachments**

Not applicable