Recommendation

1. That Report SSR-CW-02-20 regarding the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan update and agreement be received; and

2. That a by-law be brought forward authorizing the execution of the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan agreement between the Corporation of the County of Grey and the Corporation of the County of Bruce and the sixteen participating local municipalities listed in the agreement for Council’s consideration.

Executive Summary

On January 1, 2019, new legislative amendments to the Police Services Act, 1990 came into force, mandating municipalities to prepare and adopt a community safety and well-being plan by January 1, 2021. In two-tier municipal government locations, it is the local municipalities that have been designated. In recognition of the numerous stakeholders that provide services regionally across Grey and Bruce Counties, there was support for a collaborative process for the local municipalities to work jointly to develop a community safety and well-being plan under the leadership of the two Counties. Through the leadership of a consultant, a Steering Committee and an
Advisory Committee have been formed to develop the plan to ensure compliance with the legislated time frame.

Background and Discussion

Council previously received background information on this initiative in CAOR-CW-08-19. The recommendation contained within that report received approval via Committee of the Whole Resolution CW-155-19 on July 11, 2019 followed by County Council endorsement on July 25, 2019, as per Resolution CC56-19, and authorized the development of a collaborative process for a consistent community safety and well-being plan for the member municipalities in Grey and Bruce Counties to then customize, adopt and implement.

Since that time, several key actions have been taken to date, as outlined in the Advisory Committee – Status Updates and Key Messages document.

Of note, the Advisory Committee and Municipal representatives worked to finalize the Terms of Reference as well as the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan (CSWBP) Agreement to provide a governance framework for this initiative. Currently sixteen of the seventeen local municipalities are participating in the collaborative, Meaford having opted out. There are in excess of 50 municipal, organization, agency and community representatives included on the Advisory Committee membership while the Steering Committee is comprised of the representation from Grey County, Bruce County, Public Health, Victims’ Services and Police Services in support of the work of the consultant.

Attached to the report is a copy of a slide deck for municipal representatives and other advisory committee representatives to present information to their home organizations on the nature of the initiative.

Advisory and Steering Committee Meetings have been occurring regularly throughout the fall of 2019 and are planned for the coming year in 2020. Municipalities have adopted bylaws to execute the agreement of the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan and municipal engagement sessions are scheduled from January to April of this year to gather valuable input to identify risk assessment within the individual municipalities. The schedule involves town-hall meetings for direct engagement within each of the 16 municipalities. A comprehensive survey is under development; it is clear that there will be different priorities presented in different communities within the two County region. A literature review has been underway to determine best practices of the municipalities within the province that have been involved in this initiative for some time and have proven results and indicators that are reflecting the cross-sector approach to community safety and wellbeing. As well, through Ontario Municipal Social Services Association, a provincial network of CSWBP leads has been initiated. Finally,
to ensure a deep level of engagement at the community level and a clear understanding of the CSWBP initiative, and open, two-way communications, a website is being developed and set to launch in early 2020.

Legal and Legislated Requirements

Under the Police Services Act (effective January 1, 2019), municipalities are required to develop and adopt community safety and well-being plans working in partnership with a multisectoral advisory committee comprised of representation from the police service board and other local service providers in health/mental health, education, community/social services and children/youth services. The municipalities are required to have the plan in effect by January 1, 2021.

The Director of Social Services will serve as leadership, in consultation with the CAO, for Grey County on both the Advisory, and Steering Committees, for which the Terms of Reference are attached.

There are no IT considerations associated with this report although a website is planned to host relevant information and for communication and consultation purposes.

Financial and Resource Implications

A one-time grant supported funding for this initiative in the amount of $55,000 for Grey County and its member municipalities as per Committee of the Whole Resolution CW155-19 and County Council endorsement on July 25, 2019 as per Resolution CC56-19.

Bruce County has provided financial commitment in the amount of $10,000 from unconditional, one-time funding, with further financial contribution of $5,000 from each of its member municipalities. In collaboration with Bruce County this would generate a total project budget of $105,000 that would cover the costs of a part time coordinator, travel, meeting and other associated expenses incurred for the development and launch of the plan by January 1, 2021.

Relevant Consultation

☐ Internal (list)

☒ External

Advisory and Steering Committee of the CSWBP network
Appendices and Attachments

Attachment to SSR-CW-02-20 Community Safety and Well-Being Plan Agreement - December 9 2019 v. 3 FINAL

Attachment to SSR-CW-02-20 Community Safety and Well-Being Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

Attachment to SSR-CW-02-20 Community Safety and Well-Being Steering Committee Terms of Reference

Attachment to SSR-CW-02-20 CSWBP - Education Presentation - 2019.12.09 FINAL

Attachment to SSR-CW-02-20 Community Safety and Well-Being Advisory Committee Status Update