

Safer Stockton Partnership

A meeting of Safer Stockton Partnership was held on 10 December 2013.

Present: Geoff Lee (Chairman), Fred Gook (NHW), Miriam Sigsworth (YOS), Paul Noddings (Tristar), Mike Batty (SBC), Cllr Jim Beall (SBC), Steve Nelson (SBC), Gordon Laing (Cleveland Police), Paul Green (SBC), Caroline Wood (SBC), Julie Nixon (SBC), Steve McCarten (SBC)

Officers: Kerry Anderson (SBC), Steve Hume (SBC), Claire Sills (SBC), Mike Chicken (SBC), Simon Milner (SBC), Michael Henderson (SBC)

Apologies: John Bentley, Jane Humphreys, Tina Williams, Cllr Evaline Cunningham, Peter Kelly, Steve Rose, Lucia Saiger

1 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2 Draft minutes of the meeting held on 5 November 2013

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 10 December 2013 were agreed.

3 Matters Arising

Give it a Go

The Partnership received responses to queries relating to the Give it a Go initiative raised at the last meeting.

Further discussion at the meeting including:

- Cost would be £2,500 with GPS mapping or £1,250 for a basic app.
- All organisations were committed
- There were some legal issues relating to the intellectual property of the initiative to resolve but this should not slow the scheme down too much.
- No timescale was identified as yet and the Partnership would be updated on this
- It was anticipated that a volunteer would maintain the information
- Each organisation would supply an e mail address so that contact could be maintained and amendments and/or removal of information monitored.
- Administration needed to be clarified

RESOLVED that the information be noted and Mike Batty contact John Bentley to clarify administration issues.

Alcohol related offending

The Partnership was reminded that at its last meeting three recommendations from the report on alcohol relating offending had been deferred for further consideration outside the meeting. Members were provided with updates on each of those recommendations.

RESOLVED that this matter be revisited when/if appropriate.

Time scale for Lean review or allocation of Police resources

An update was provided.

It was noted that the reconfiguration would be completed by the end of the financial year.

Methodology would take account of ASB and Crime figures but not population.

Hartlepool would take the biggest hit.

There would be 132 PCSOs to be allocated throughout the force.

Integrated Neighbourhood Policing Pilots in Middlesbrough and Hartlepool were proving successful.

RESOLVED that the information be noted

Definition of Anti-Social Behaviour

At its last meeting the partnership had requested details of proposed amendments to the definition of anti-social behaviour. Details of proposed changes as detailed in the Crime and Policing Bill were provided.

When the new definition came into effect the Partnership Problem Solving Group would agree on a local process. There would be reports back to the Partnership.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

Supply of Data on Alcohol Related Admissions to Hospital

These details would be provided to the partnership at its next meeting.

4 Locality Forums.

Concern was expressed at the lack of attendance from Forum representatives and a discussion relating to the links between the Forums and the Partnership. The Forums focus had shifted towards tackling Family Poverty and Crime and Disorder MAY not be directly discussed.

There was reference to a recent meeting of the Northern Area Partnership being cancelled.

RESOLVED that the Chairman consider this further and take the issues forward outside the meeting.

6 Minutes of Safeguarding Adults Committee

The Minutes of the Safeguarding Adults Committee held on the 12th November 2013 were circulated and considered by the partnership.

7 Criminal Damage

The partnership received a presentation on criminal damage in the Borough.

The Partnership noted the work being undertaken and it was explained that Cleveland Police continued to analyse problem areas using AN intelligence led approach to direct operational activity and utilise resources effectively.

Members were provided with performance information and noted criminal damage trends and ward distribution. Trends across force areas didn't take account of the population of the Borough and it would be helpful if this could be provided to give a clearer picture

Much of the damage caused was indiscriminate, with no apparent linkages. Issues relating to John Whitehead Park were briefly discussed.

During discussion the issues relating to allocation of police resources was returned to and the fact that population would not be considered in the calculation of this. The Partnership's view was that it should be considered and it agreed that its concerns, in this regard, should be raised with the Chief Constable and Commissioner.

RESOLVED that the information be noted and the issue of police allocation of resources, as detailed above, be raised with the Chief Constable and Police and Crime Commissioner.

8. Recorded Crime and Disorder

The Partnership was provided with a report that set out the recorded crime and anti-social behaviour figures for April 2013 to October 2013 compared to the same time period in 2012, for the Borough.

Key findings included:

- Public reported crime in Stockton had increased by 5.9%
- Crime categories showing significant increases continued to be theft offences.
- The year to date for anti-social behaviour incidents showed an increase of 12.5%; however Stockton still had the lowest rate per 1,000 population.

The Partnership noted the increase in rape, although almost none of this was 'stranger rape' and much of it was historic reporting. This highlighted the need to get key safety messages into the Community. Operation Tranquillity and the Town Pastors could help with this.

There had been increases in incidents of food theft. A leaflet was provided to those picked up for shoplifting offences directing them to welfare advice.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

9 DAAT Q2 Performance

Members considered a report relating to quarter 2 performance.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

10 Proposed Dispersal Order for John Whitehead Park

Members received a report relating to the proposed Dispersal Order for Billingham.

Following large increases in incidents of anti-social behaviour and disorder that ad persisted over recent months the police were consulting with Stockton Borough Council on a proposal to implement a dispersal order that would include Billingham Town Centre and John Whitehead Park.

The partnership was provided with evidence supporting the need for the order.

The order would be for up to 6 months but could be lifted at any time. Discretion and proportionate use of the powers within the order would be important

RESOLVED that the proposed dispersal order be supported.

11 Meeting Dates 2014/15

Members were provided with proposed meeting dates for 2014/15.

RESOLVED that the proposed meeting dates be approved.

12 Community Safety Plan 2014/17- Agreement of Key Priorities

The partnership was provided with a detailed analysis of the responses of the 2013 Crime and Disorder Audit.

The top seven priorities identified by the residents were as follows

1. Anti-social behaviour
2. Violent crime
3. Drug related offending
4. Criminal damage
5. Robbery
6. Alcohol related crime/ASB
7. Domestic violence

It was proposed that the issue of robbery be merged with violent crime and that domestic violence therefore becomes sixth priority. This is due to the correlation between violence, or the threat of violence and robbery.

RESOLVED that

1. The merging of violent crime and robbery as a single priority be agreed.
2. The proposed six priorities for 2014/17 community safety plan be agreed.

13 The Stevens Review

Members noted that on 25th November 2013 the report of the Independent Police Commission, shared by Lord Stevens and entitled Policing for a Better Britain was published. Members were signposted to the full report and noted that it contained 37 recommendations.

An extract from a summary and recommendations section of the document was provided to Members showing the passages considered to be of greatest interest to the partnership.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

14 Restorative Justice

The partnership was provided with a report relating to restorative justice (RJ). RJ brings those harmed and those responsible for harm together to see what can be done to repair that harm and find a positive way forward.

It was explained that since the beginning of February 2013 a project had been operating in Stockton, funded for 12 months by Stockton Drug and Alcohol Commissioning Group in which the RJ co-ordinator had been exploring the potential to use RJ to reduce the offending behaviour/substance misuse of persistent offenders/high crime causes.

The report provided the partnership with details of learning to date, what had been achieved and a summary of highlights and other outcomes. Members also noted how things may be taken forward and future possibilities.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

15 Publicising Police Successes

The Police was reviewing its approach to publicising its successes.

RESOLVED that the police review be noted and a presentation on this matter come forward to a future meeting of the Partnership

16 Changes to Street Lighting

The Partnership received a presentation relating to invest to save proposals for street lighting in the Borough.

The proposals would centre on the use of LED technology which had many benefits, including:

- Reduction in energy use
- Reduced carbon footprint
- Lower maintenance cost
- Reduced fear of crime
- Reduction in light pollution
- Improved colour recognition

There had been recent trials of the technology in the Borough with some positive feedback. Each area/street would have lighting designed to provide the best results for it.

The proposals would include the replacement, over 3 years, of 28,000 lanterns to LED, 300 columns and all 8500 columns over 25 years old. The tender process would seek a 10 -15 year warranty.

The Partnership noted that properties may not be lit to the extent they currently are and it was suggested that home owners may need to consider additional lighting. In terms of social landlords they may need to consider the impact on their properties/tenants and look at dusk till dawn lighting. Paul Noddings indicated that he would take this issue back to the Tristar Investment Team.

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

**17 Reports Back
Local Strategic Partnership
DAAT Groups**

There were no reports back.

Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 28th January 2013 at 9.30 am