

Safer Stockton Partnership

A meeting of Safer Stockton Partnership was held on 25 March 2014.

Present: Geoff Lee (Chairman), Miriam Sigsworth (YOS), Paul Noddings (Tristar), Mike Batty (SBC), Cllr Jim Beall (SBC), Steve Nelson (SBC), Ian Coates (Cleveland Police), Jeff Evans (Probation), Christine Goodman (Victim Support), Jane Humphreys (SBC), Richard Phelan (HMP Holme House) Paul Green (SBC), Caroline Wood (SBC), Julie Nixon (SBC), Emma Champley (SBC), Julie Nixon (SBC), Steve McCarten (SBC)

Officers: Kerry Anderson, Steve Hume, Claire Sills, Vicky Hatton, Michael Henderson (SBC)

Also in attendance:

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

1 Draft minutes of the meeting held on 28 January 2014

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 28 January 2014 were agreed.

2 Matters Arising

Supply of data on alcohol related admissions to hospital

This issue was the subject of regular discussions outside the meeting to try and address the problem and the Partnership would receive an update when progress had been made.

Locality Forums – representation on the Partnership

This matter was dealt with later on the agenda.

ARCC/Future of Probation

The Partnership received a further update on the future operation of the Probation, It was noted that Lucia Saiger would be a Director in the Super Region North East and Jeff Evans would be staying in Stockton,

The new arrangements would commence 1st June but there were still lots of work to do and it was unclear who would be attending what meetings. This still needed to be discussed.

3 Locality Forums

It was noted that Catalyst would be working with the Community Sector to identify 4 representatives from the Locality Forums to attend Partnership meetings and feed in from and feedback to the Forums. There would be bi annual meetings where the forum representatives would receive updates on Community Safety issues. The Partnership welcomed the progress that had been made and the process that would allow effective two way dialogue, with the Community Sector, to now take place.

4 Minutes of Safeguarding Adults Committee

The minutes of the Safeguarding Adults Committee held on 29 January were noted.

It was explained that the Safeguarding Adults Peer Review had been completed and feedback had been positive. The Final Report would be submitted to the Partnership in due course.

5 Any Other Business

There were no items of any other business.

6 Recorded Crime and Disorder

The Partnership received a report that set out recorded crime and anti-social behaviour figures for April 2013 to February 2014 compared to the same time period in 2012/13 financial year for the Borough.

Members noted some of the key issues:-

- Public Crime in the Borough had reduced by 0.6%, equating to 59 fewer victims of crime.
- Total crime was showing a reduction of 1.6%, equating to 167 fewer crimes
- Projections were showing an annual decrease of 1.2%, which was 119 fewer crimes than last year
- Rape offences continued to show an increase, however, analysis of such crimes showed no patterns or evidence to suggest concerns with 'stranger' rape.
- Shoplifting had improved on the first six months of the year, demonstrating that operation shadow was working well.
- ASB incidents showed an increase of 8.3% along with a projection of 9% for end March 2014.

It was noted that some of the shoplifting formally taking place in the Stockton Town Centre was migrating to other areas and this was being monitored and would be addressed using same tactics.

It was agreed that a breakdown of shoplifting, by area, would be e mailed to members.

Member noted that an item on Hate Crime would be presented to the Partnership in due course. The Commissioner was leading on Hate Crime and further discussion was needed on how the Community Safety Partnerships would be involved.

It was noted that there were arrangements to publicise the fact that recorded crime was lower than last year..

RESOLVED that the report and discussion be noted.

7 DAAT Q3 Performance

The Partnership received quarter 3 performance information in relation to Drugs and alcohol treatment.

Members considered the information provided.

The Partnership agreed that it would be useful to receive an overview of the terms used in within drugs and alcohol treatments and the current issues in this area.

RESOLVED that the information provided be noted and overview described above be provided to a future meeting.

8 Planned Reports 2014/15

Members were provided with a schedule detailing planned reports at meetings of the Partnership during 2014/15.

Members noted the planned reports and the other items identified

- Adult Peer Review Safeguarding Adults – May
- Hate Crime – future meeting
- HMI Domestic Violence – future meeting
- How IOMs are considered – Autumn
- Criminal Damage/Mischief Night/Bonfire Night – also to October meeting
- CEO of CRC invited to June meeting

RESOLVED that the report be noted and approved and the additional items identified be added to the plan.

9 Community Safety Plan 2014/2017

The Partnership was provided with a copy of the Community Safety Plan 2014/2017.

RESOLVED that the plan be noted.

10 Contribution to Give it a Go project

Members were reminded of the Give it a Go web application and were asked to agree a contribution of £2500 to support the further development and launch of the application.

Members raised a number of issues relating to the updating/management of the application.

It was agreed that responses to the concerns be sought and be circulated to members.

RESOLVED that responses to the concerns be collated and be forwarded to members and subject to the concerns being sufficiently addressed the contribution be made.

11 Threshold for ASB Interventions.

Members received an update on the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Bill 2013/14. The update included details of changes to the definition of ASB. The update also provided details of the Community trigger which was a mechanism for victims of persistent ASB to request that relevant agencies undertake a case review.

The Partnership discussed the update at length and the potential effects of the proposals in the Bill in terms of how ASB would be recorded and dealt with in Stockton and the associated resource implications.

Members noted a proposed threshold and procedure for activating the Community Trigger process for Stockton.

Members noted the points raised within paragraph 2.5 of the report. It was suggested that further work be undertaken on these points and be reported to the Partnership's next meeting, for consideration.

RESOLVED that the report be noted and following the work described above, this matter be considered at the Partnership's next meeting.

12 Alcohol awareness programme for young people

RESOLVED that this be considered at a future meeting of the Partnership.

13 PCC Budget 2014/15 – Business Case from four CSPs

Members were provided with a copy of the business case for consideration of the PCC for the provision of funding to support the local delivery of community safety initiatives aimed at addressing local and key priorities identified within Community Safety Plans and the Police and Crime Plan 2013/17.

RESOLVED that the business case be noted.

14 Viewpoint 35 – Domestic Abuse Strategy

The Partnership received a paper that summarised the key findings of a viewpoint survey on domestic abuse to support the review of the Borough's Domestic Abuse Strategy.

RESOLVED that the paper be noted.

15 Draft Domestic Abuse Strategy

Members received a report that provided them with an opportunity to comment on the draft Domestic Abuse Strategy for 2014/15 and to review the accompanying draft Action Plan for 2014/15.

Members were specifically asked to consider the appropriateness of the vision and the scope of the action plan and to identify any measures of success. Members could email any comments to Emma Champley.

The Partnership considered the report and identified a number of possible measures of success, including:

- Gender awareness – evidence of increased awareness in men
- Reduction of referrals to Child Protection
- Cost to NHS – assaults and injury
- Number of people accessing places of safety
- Cases that go to court/ convictions
- Case studies
- Customer satisfaction

RESOLVED that the draft Strategy and Action Plan be supported and any further comments be directed to Emma Champley directly.

16 Adult Safeguarding Peer Challenge

It was explained that the feedback from the recent Adult Safeguarding Peer Challenge had made a suggestion that the Partnership considers vulnerable people as a priority.

The Partnership agreed that, within the introductory text of the Community Safety Plan 14/17 there would be a reference to prioritising the most vulnerable victims and noting that vulnerability would be addressed as most appropriate under each of the six priorities.

RESOLVED that the above approach be agreed.

17 Sex Markets

The Partnership received a report relating to research that had been carried out into Sex Markets in Teesside. A copy of the research report had been issued in February and Members were provided with the Executive Summary and findings specific to Stockton.

RESOLVED that the report be received.

18 Restorative Justice DVD

The Partnership watched a DVD which detailed a Case Study depicting a model of Restorative Justice and how it had benefited a previous perpetrator of crimes.

It was agreed that a further discussion of Restorative Justice would take place a meeting of the Partnership, later in the year.

RESOLVED that the DVD be noted and a further discussion on Restorative Justice take place at a future meeting.

19 Hate Crime

Members received a report relating to Hate Crime and a proposed approach in Stockton as a result of changes introduced to improve hate crime reporting across the Tees. Details of the proposed approach were noted:

As part of the refreshed SBC approach the Stockton Hate Crime group recommend **four** key reporting centres :

- Stockton Central Library
- Stockton District Advice and Information Service, Bath Lane
- Thornaby Central Library and Customer Service Centre
- Roseberry Billingham Library (Billingham Centre Library and Customer Service Centre, when it goes live)

The rationale was that they were central, were the centres that most Hate Crimes were reported and had private rooms for reporting 'Hate Crime'. All direct reporting centres would receive training on the correct procedures for reporting and recording hate crime.

In addition there would be an increase in the reach of awareness of Hate Crime by having 48 centres across the Borough (See Appendix 3 of the report) that had information on how and where to report incidents, ensuring links were made with the Safe Place in Tees Scheme. These sites and their related organisations would be offered a basic level of awareness raising /training and posters and publicity material, provided via the Tees Wide Hate Crime Group.

In addition to providing training for the **four** reporting centres there would be refresher

training for key staffing groups including the Anti-social Behaviour Team, Customer Services, Housing and Security Centre staff as these staff groups were those who would be more likely to deal with the victims of Hate Crime. This would allow for the inclusion of changes made to the protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 and would take into account any changes that had occurred in staffing.

The disability sub-headings that Tees Wide Hate Crime Group recommends would be used in reporting to ensure consistency across Tees.

There would be support for the Tees Wide 'Hate Crime' campaign which saw Police and partners:

- Working with key organisations to raise awareness of reporting hate crime e.g. Jomast
- Providing educational lessons on hate crime issues including those committed via social networks and the importance of internet safety when dealing with hate crime delivered over social media.
- Co-ordinating the reporting of hate crime incidents across Tees.

RESOLVED that the information be noted and the proposed approach to Hate Crime in Stockton as outlined in the report and above be noted.

20 Reports Back

There were no reports back

21 Date of Next Meeting

- Tuesday 6 May 2014 at 9.30 am

22 Mike Batty

At the conclusion of the meeting the Chairman referred to the impending retirement of Mike Batty, Head of Community Safety at Stockton Borough Council. The Chairman, personally, and on behalf of all members, paid tribute to the support Mike had provided to the Partnership. Mike was presented with a gift that would serve as a reminder of the successes he had achieved during his association with the SSP.