

Crime and Disorder Select Committee

A meeting of Crime and Disorder Select Committee was held on Thursday, 17th September, 2015.

Present: Cllr Paul Baker(Chairman), Cllr David Wilburn(Vice-Chairman), Cllr Ken Dixon, Cllr Paul Rowling, Cllr Norma Stephenson O.B.E, Cllr Mrs Sylvia Walmsley, Cllr Julia Whitehill, Cllr Barry Woodhouse

Officers: Steven Hume (Community Safety Manager), Julie Nixon (Head of Housing and Community Protection), Valerie Milford (Improvement Officer - DNS), Graham Birtle, Jenna McDonald (LDS)

Also in attendance: Dave Pickard (Chair of Safer Stockton Partnership), Chief Inspector Marc Anderson (Cleveland Police), Cllr Steve Nelson (Cabinet Member for Access, Communities and Community Safety)

Apologies: Cllr Matthew Vickers

CD Evacuation Procedure

12/15

The evacuation procedure was noted.

CD Declarations of Interest

13/15

There were no declarations of interest.

CD Minutes for signature - 18 June 2015

14/15

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 June 2015 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

AGREED that the minutes be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

CD Draft Minutes - 30 July 2015

15/15

Consideration was given to the draft minutes of the meeting held on 30 July 2015.

AGREED that the minutes be approved.

CD Overview of Community Safety Services and Crime and Disorder Partnership

16/15

Members were provided with a report on the overview of Community Safety Services and Crime and Disorder Partnership.

The following points were highlighted in a presentation provided to the Committee:

- Community Safety Services was made up from 11 services, some of which included; Care Call, Neighbourhood Enforcement, Safer Stockton Partnership (SSP) and Anti Social Behaviour (ASB).

- External organisations bought into SBC Community Safety Services such as CCTV monitoring.

- Community Safety Services involved significant Multi-Agency work with partners such as SSP, Domestic Violence Strategy Group and Anti-Social Behaviour Problem Solving. Joint Action Groups (JAGs) were chaired daily by the Chief Inspector in order to discuss problems and to implement tangible options.

- The Drug and Alcohol Action Commissioning Group made representation at the Adults Health and Wellbeing Partnership meetings

Members noted key achievements within Community Safety Services 2014-15:

- Stockton remained the safest place to live in the Tees Valley

- CCTV image relayed to both Gold and Silver command units working with Emergency Planning. CCTV systems covered areas such as Stockton Town Centre and Norton Village

- A successful inspection was carried out on the use of CCTV and procedural compliance by the Office of Surveillance Commissioners

- The introduction of traffic management provision for events such as SIRF continued to grow within Community Safety Services. Members also noted that the service also provided support to Children, Education and Social Care (CESC) transporting vulnerable individuals.

- A total of £80,000 funding was received from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to support ASB, Youth Engagement, Domestic Abuse and Restorative Practice.

- A Service Level Agreement (SLA) was secured with Thirteen Group with the aim of providing Stockton residents with the best possible 'Gold Standard' service.

Some of the challenges faced by Community Safety Services during 2014/15 included:

- An increase in demand for all Community Safety services in addition to an increase in crime

- Reduced resources and organisational changes in other service partners such as the Fire Service

- The implementation of the revised powers under the ASB Crime and Policing Act

It was highlighted that the main focus' for the Community Safety team going forward were:

- To reduce crime and the fear of crime

- To effectively deliver the Troubled Families Programme

- To support the development of effective Probation Services

- To ensure effective public protection

The Committee noted emerging issues within the Community Safety Team.

The Chief Inspector in attendance of the meeting raised the following points to the Committee:

- ASB in the Borough reduced by 6% in 2014/15 as a result of successful partnership work
- Work carried out by officers operating CCTV aided in 461 arrests during 2014-15
- In the last financial year there had been a 3.1% overall increase in crime in Stockton and an 18% increase in crime in the past 12 months. Middlesbrough was the only neighbouring authority with less increase in crime than Stockton.
- Partnership work was crucial to the delivery of Community Safety Services. It was highlighted that crimes relating to overhead cable theft and lead theft were resolved due to working in partnership with other bodies.
- It was heard that the three key priorities included; protecting property, Protecting people and tackling serious and organised crime
- Cleveland Police workforce decreased in 2014-15 by around 450 officers and reviews were currently being carried out on Neighbourhood Policing, Response and Protecting Vulnerable people.
- The National Crime Recording Standard (NCRS) identified that Cleveland Police were required to make changes to practices.
- In August 2015, Stockton presented a 9.7% reduction in ASB (1265 less reported incidents). ASB calls were discussed at each morning meeting in aim of solving the issues using 'report caller process'.
- Cleveland Police introduced an Incident Crime Management Team which focussed on taking crime details over the phone. It was noted that where there was a line of enquiry, the caller would be visited by an officer.
- The Victim First programme was due to commence in October and would focus on identifying repeat victims in order to ensure that individuals received appropriate support.
- Stockton Town Centre, Mandale, Norton North, Norton South and Newtown were the five wards across the Borough with the highest crime rates.
- The Chairman of the SSP informed Members that strategic coordination was a challenge going forward, it was heard that it was extremely important to continue to work in partnership.
- There had been a definite increase in crime in Stockton which was not only due to the change in recording practice.

- Members noted that SSP were due to examine the response to the increase in crime and also discuss bodies who did not contribute sufficiently as partners.

Members raised the following points/questions:

- Was a procedure in place in order to assess how efficiently Cleveland Police and Community Safety Services worked together? It was heard that a review of the partnership work was carried out weekly at a meeting which was held every Friday if not daily on a more informal basis.
- It was asked whether the number of people committing a crime had an impact on the response which the reported crime received, in response, Members were informed that reported crimes were responded to as appropriate depending on the crime itself. Members enquired about the response received to a reported crime. They were informed that the response was measured, and appropriate to the crime category committed, investigation opportunities and this was reflected in the performance measures of the police and their community safety partners.
- Members agreed that a publicity campaign was required in order to deal with perception regarding the response which reported crimes received.
- It was asked how successful the introduction was of the 101 contact line. It was highlighted that there had been no issues or problems reported and the introduction was well advertised.

AGREED that the information be noted.

CD
17/15 **Work Programme**

The Committee gave consideration to the work programme 2015-16.

AGREED that:

- The Review of School Parking be ahead of the Review of Dog DNA
- Consideration be given to a time change of future meetings.

CD
18/15 **Chair's Update**

The Chair Provided no update.