

Crime and Disorder Select Committee

A meeting of Crime and Disorder Select Committee was held on Thursday, 31st May, 2018.

Present: Cllr David Wilburn(Chair), Cllr Paul Rowling(Vice-Chair), Cllr Chris Barlow, Cllr Carol Clark, Cllr Ian Dalgarno, Cllr Kevin Faulks, Cllr Stephen Richardson, Cllr Julia Whitehill, Cllr Barry Woodhouse

Officers: Steven Hume, Claire Sills, Satnam Singh (CS); Sandra Percival, Judy Trainer (DCE)

Also in attendance: Inspector Jeff Parks (Cleveland Police), Cllr Steve Nelson (Cabinet Member)

Apologies: Cllr Stephen Richardson, Cllr Paul Rowling

CAD 56/17 Evacuation Procedure

The evacuation procedure was noted.

CAD 57/17 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest from Members recorded.

CAD 58/17 Introduction of a Licenced Premises Award Scheme: Setting The Bar

The Committee considered a report which outlined proposals for a licensed premises award scheme for Stockton supporting improvements in the management of licensed premises and promoting responsible drinking across the Borough.

The main issues discussed were as follows:

- The scheme related to the whole Borough and this should be clarified in the report and any paperwork relating to the scheme
- There would be an ongoing programme of inspections
- Administration of the scheme would be from existing budgets
- The scheme was a bespoke scheme for Stockton Borough. Other national accreditation schemes had been considered but were felt to be too resource intensive and did not fully meet the needs of the Borough

AGREED That the Committee support the introduction of Setting the Bar, a licensed premises award scheme for Stockton Borough.

CAD 59/17 Scrutiny Review of Hate Crime

The Select Committee reviewed the following information which had been sent out with the Committee agenda:

- Briefing note containing hate crime statistics and trends and progress against the action plan
- Stockton Hate Crime Group Terms of Reference and Action Plan example;
- Hate Crime Awareness Week Feedback;
- Tension Monitoring Form Example;
- Example of positive prosecution for hate from PCC website.

The following attended the meeting to provide evidence:

Steven Hume – Community Safety and Strategy Manager
Claire Sills - Assistant Community Safety and Strategy Manager
Satnam Singh – Senior Cohesion and Diversity Officer
Inspector Jeff Parks – Chair of the Hate Crime Group
Cllr Steve Nelson – Cabinet Member

Members received a presentation highlighting:

- What does the data tell us?
- Number of Hate Crimes over the past five years;
- Most recent yearly comparative data;
- Roles and functions of the Hate Crime Working Group;
- Overview of the hate crime process;
- Show Racism the Red Card 2017.

The main issues discussed were as follows:

- Case Studies illustrating recent successful prosecutions;
- Recent research revealed that 70% of victims wanted restorative justice rather than prosecution and this route was now being pursued more;
- With regard to under-reporting, Cllr Steve Nelson referred to the work that had been carried out with the taxi trade which meant that this group were the biggest group for reporting. However, the trade affirmed that what was being reported was “the tip of the iceberg”;
- There was significant under-reporting from the trans-gender and disabled communities;
- A programme of training on hate crime was being rolled out across Cleveland Police;
- Reporting of hate crime had doubled over the past five years which was encouraging but more still needed to be done;
- Cleveland Police had dedicated officers in place working with Asylum Seekers;
- Hate crime could get re-categorised from another classification where this was incorrect;
- The feedback from hate crime awareness week 2017 provided some important information on the barriers to reporting and this was included in the Members’ agenda papers;
- More awareness raising was needed within community groups to champion the issues;
- The Hate Crime Group was unique to Stockton and provided the opportunity to review all cases of hate crime, trends and support for victims;
- It was felt important to develop a range of measures to assess the impact and effectiveness of awareness raising and support activities and it was suggested that a series of questions be developed for the Committee’s session with the voluntary and community sector.

AGREED that the information be noted.

CAD Work Programme

60/17

The Committee reviewed the items to be considered at future meetings.

AGREED that the work programme be noted.