

Safer Stockton Partnership

A meeting of Safer Stockton Partnership was held on Tuesday, 6th May, 2008.

Present: Geoff Lee (Chairman - Tristar Homes), Cllr Steve Nelson, Mike Batty (SBC); Miriam Robertson (YOS); Bert Smailes (Billingham Partnership Board); Paul Kirton (Cleveland Fire and Cleveland Police); Chris Coombs, Joanne Hodgkinson (Cleveland Police Authority); Paul Green (Stockton Adult Protection Committee); Emma Champley (Stockton DAT); Anne Howard (Neighbourhood Watch); Ted Allen, Dave Brunskill (Police); Ian Garrett (Eastern Area Partnership Board); Lucia Saiger (Probation).

Officers: F Shayler (LD); Marilyn Davies (DNS).

Also in attendance: David Dunn (GONE); Ed Chicken (Observer - Middlesbrough Borough Council)

Apologies: Ian Harrington, Cllr Julia Roberts, John Bentley, Geoff Turner.

SSP 1/08 Minutes of the Meeting - 18th March 2008

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th March 2008 were agreed as a correct record subject to the following amendment:-

Under Minute No. 395 regarding levels of deliberate fires - should read 'the North East had high levels of fires'.

SSP 2/08 Matters Arising

(a) PCSO Funding 2009/10 and beyond (Minute 394 refers)

In Cleveland there were a total of 197 full time PCSO's. 55 were employed in Stockton with a 2% vacancy (1 ½ posts). The PCSO grant had been agreed for 3 years with a reliance on partnership funding. The whole budget for PCSO's in Cleveland was £5.3 million, with £469,000 partnership funding for Cleveland. A further update would be provided at the next meeting.

(b) National Community Safety Plan (Minute 403 refers)

An update would be provided at the next meeting.

SSP 3/08 Action Notes from Scanning & Challenge Group 14 April 2008 (enclosed) (MB)

The Action notes from the Scanning and Challenge Group of 14 April were noted for information purposes.

It was stated that Chief Inspector Derek Carter was responsible for EXODUS. Part of this programme was to crack down on anti social behaviour by issuing warning letters prior to going down the route of an ASBO/CRASBO. Under a Section 27 notice a Police Officer was able to serve notice on someone causing an alcohol related nuisance and they would have to leave the area/vicinity for 48 hours. When a copy of the notice was received by the office a warning letter was then issued. If the notice was breached the matter would go to the courts. This programme was currently running in Stockton Town Centre and would be going out to Yarm, Billingham, Thornaby etc.

Neighbourhood Watch highlighted that they had received a letter from the Home Office stating that the matter of cash seizures was under review. Neighbourhood Watch were 100% behind this campaign and will provide further updates.

AGREED that the Action notes from the Scanning and Challenge Group of 14 April were noted for information.

SSP Any Other Business - Identification Only

4/08

Discussion on Bail Hostels.

SSP Community Safety Plan 2005/2008 Final Quarter

5/08

(enclosed)

(MD)

There were a total of 48 targets in the Community Safety Plan for 2007/08. 32 of the targets had been achieved (green), 8 were slightly below expected performance (amber) and 5 had not been achieved (red). The remaining 3 targets were not due an update.

The red and amber targets were addressed in detail.

Dave Brunskill stated that with regard to other thefts, improvements were being made by all the initiatives that had been brought in, however, it may take sometime for this to show in the figures.

Discussion was held on CDRP and BCU groupings which were different. It was stated that the way in which the groupings were worked out was very complicated. The BCU groupings had very challenging comparisons. David Dunn (GONE) will raise with Judith Million.

AGREED that the update be noted and that the issue of BCU and CDRP groupings be raised with Judith Million.

SSP Youth Justice Plan 2007/08 Fourth Quarter

6/08

(enclosed)

(MR)

Members were provided with an update on the performance of the YOS against the key Youth Justice Board (YJB) performance indicators and, as requested by a previous meeting, comments were focused upon those areas under performing. Attached to the Report was the performance data for the last quarter, January to March 2008. We were currently validating our annual performance data and an update would be provided at the next meeting.

In 2007/08, the YJB monitors performance against 12 national performance measures and associated targets. These 12 Performance Measures were reported annually for Ethnicity and Recidivism and quarterly for Prevention, Final Warnings, Use of Secure Estate, Use of Restorative Processes and Victim Satisfaction, Parenting, Detention and Training Orders, Education, Training and Employment, Accommodation, Mental Health and Substance Use.

The YOS was performing well in a number of areas, which reflected a continuing commitment by staff and partner agencies. However, there were some areas for improvement: Education, Training and Employment, was an area highlighted in the attached report. In this last quarter, the proportion of young people remanded into the secure estate had increased to above target, for the first time.

Whilst not reflected in the quarterly data, we know from previous discussions at the Partnership Board, that outcomes relating to FTE and Recidivism, both currently monitored annually, needed to improve.

FTE, Recidivism and ETE were likely to be ongoing areas for improvement. We will monitor the proportion of young people being remanded into the secure estate.

AGREED that the report be noted.

**SSP
7/08 Partnership Improvement Plan
(enclosed)
(MB)**

At a meeting of the Partnership on 5 December 2006, the Partnership approved a Partnership Improvement Plan, and agreed to receive monitoring reports at six-monthly intervals for the intended 18 month lifetime of the Plan (minute 209 refers).

The monitoring report for the third and final six months, to the end of March 2008, was provided for Members information.

AGREED that the report be noted, and that the Partnership agree to discharge the Partnership Improvement Plan as complete.

**SSP
8/08 Planned Reports 2008/09
(enclosed)
(MB)**

Members were provided with a list of Planned reports for 2008/09.

AGREED that the planned reports be approved.

**SSP
9/08 Local Area Agreement (LAA) Update
(enclosed)
(MB)**

Members were provided with the latest version of the list of national indicators to be included in the LAA, as at 17 April, showing four indicators under the 'Safer Communities' agenda, of which one 'belongs' to the DAT, rather than to this partnership.

Also provided was a list of suggestions for local indicators from consultative processes.

A number of the proposed indicators were to be measured through the PLACE survey (approx 20% response rate). There had been some market testing and some methods had not been working well in practice, so further changes may be made.

A query was raised with regard to NI 117 - 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment (NEET). GONE would report back.

A meeting had been held at the Wynyard Rooms to discuss the LAA. It was felt that it would be difficult to measure 'reducing the fear of crime', there were questions however in the MORI survey which would provide an indication. Members stated that although the meeting at the Wynyard Rooms had been useful, many attendees had felt that they should have been consulted earlier in the process. Mike Batty would report comments to Dawn Welsh.

AGREED that the comments and update be noted.

**SSP
10/08** **Community Justice Initiative
(enclosed)
(MB)**

Members were provided with a set of notes prepared by staff of the Cleveland Criminal Justice Board providing an outline of a discussion on this issue which took place on 14 March 2008.

It was apparent that the LCJB partner agencies had not yet fully worked out their position on rolling out the CJI to other parts of Cleveland, beyond the initial pilot scheme in Middlesbrough, with representatives from the Courts, CPS and Probation all expressing doubts about their ability to resource and sustain a similar approach elsewhere.

In addition the officer from the Courts Service who had been acting as CJI Co-ordinator on secondment was returning to her substantive role, and this role had been advertised as a secondment opportunity with a closing date of 30 April.

What was clear from this meeting was that the CJI required significant community development / neighbourhood management input in order to work effectively. In East Middlesbrough this had been provided by the 'STEM' project.

A seminar was being held on the issue on Wednesday 7 May at Middlesbrough Teaching and Learning Centre between 10.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m., with inputs on community impact statements, Section 178 reviews, and Restorative Justice and problem solving, followed by group discussions for

- magistrates
- project and communications managers
- police options
- probation

A meeting took place on 21 April between Kellie Hopkins, Neighbourhood

Manager for Parkfield / Mill Lane, CI Gary Gamesby, Miriam Robertson, Sarah Graham from the Council's Community Safety Team and Mike Batty to explore the principle of piloting CJI in Central Stockton and it was agreed that the next best step would be to attend the 7 May seminar.

Members held discussion on this initiative, the aim of which was the reconnect the community with the criminal justice system. A vehicle such as 'STEM' would be required in order to get the message across to the community.

An update would be provided at the next meeting.

AGREED that the report be noted and that an update be provided at the next meeting.

**SSP
11/08** **Cross Tees Valley Working
(enclosed)
(MB)**

A meeting was held on 10 April attended by representatives of GONE, the Community Safety leads from Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland and Stockton Councils, representatives of the Chief Constables of Durham and Cleveland, and a public health representative (prospective new Director of Public Health for Hartlepool).

A wide ranging discussion took place about issues on which it might be useful to work in a more collaborative way, in developing

- a) a focus on work with children and young people, particularly on youth diversion work
- b) reducing re-offending and offender management initiatives
- c) criminal damage
- d) alcohol harm reduction
- e) counter- terrorism

The end point of the session was a consensus that the two best issues on which to focus over the next 12 months would be

- a) sharing of data and intelligence – GONE would commission a short 'think piece' on how to take this forward; and
- b) fear of crime, perceptions and reassurance – GONE would commission an academic to follow-up with a series of bilateral sessions, leading to a paper for further collective discussion.

A further meeting will be held to discuss the matter further.

AGREED that the update be noted.

**SSP
12/08** **National Indicator 15 - Most Serious Violent Crime
(enclosed)
(MB/MD)**

Members were provided with an analysis of offences falling within the definition of NI 15 over the last four years. NI 15 would be the basis of a target within the

Community Safety Plan and the Local Area Agreement.

The headline good news was that, although total violence against the person had been relatively stable over the period, the number of 'most serious' offences had fallen.

It was interesting to note that only 63 of the 487 offences in scope of the analysis, i.e. 13% of the total, were domestic violence incidents. This contrasted with the fact that our first Partnership Strategic Assessment showed domestic violence incidents at 22% of all violence against the person, and the high proportion of incidents nationally which were serious violence cases.

The clear conclusion was that 'most serious violence' was strongly associated with the night-time economy and alcohol. This was supported by the locational peaks in Stockton Town Centre Ward, the fact that Yarm Ward came in at number five in the Ward ratings, and the clusters for Tall Trees, Zanzibar, Brads Bar, the New Cross Keys, Billingham Arms and Speak Easy, the weekend concentration and the fact that males aged 18-24 were the top group for both victims and offenders, and males aged 25-34 are the second highest group, with these two groups accounting for more than half of both victims and offenders.

Stockton Police had recently introduced a last drink monitoring process in the custody suite, which would produce statistics on the premises at which people arrested for offences involving drunkenness had their last drink prior to arrest.

The information be referred to the Domestic Violence Strategy group and the Violence Reduction group for further discussion.

**SSP
13/08** **Any other Business**

Bail Hostels

Two properties had been acquired within Stockton by Clear Springs, the contractor commissioned by the Ministry of Justice nationally to develop a bail hostel/s. It was reported that these hostels were for low level offenders without an appropriate/fixed address to reside when they leave prison. The hostel would accommodate upto 6 people.

Members of the partnership were concerned about residents perceptions and felt that work would have to be done with communities due to the sensitivity of this matter.

A meeting was due to be held on Thursday 7th May with a representative of Clear Springs. Members of the Partnership would receive an update by email following this meeting.

**SSP
14/08** **Counter Terrorism**

A DVD would be produced for staff in public authority buildings for training purposes.

SSP **Communications**

**15/08 (enclosed)
(MD)**

Members of the Partnership were provided with a list of press releases for the period 1st March to 18th April 2008.

AGREED that the press releases be noted.

**SSP Recorded Crime & Disorder
16/08 (enclosed)
(MD)**

A report was provided on the recorded crime figures and anti social behaviour disorder codes for April 2007 - March 2008 compared with April 2006 - March 2007.

Members held discussion on shoplifters. Shops were circulated with photographs of prolific shoplifters who had ASBO's or CRASBO's and were informed of those who had just been released from prison.

AGREED that the information be noted.

**SSP Final Version of Community Safety Plan 2008-2011
17/08**

Members were provided with the final version of the Community Safety Plan 2008-11.

**SSP Reports Back
18/08**

Adult Protection

An update would be provided at the next meeting.

Neighbourhood Watch

New housing by Tristar and a Housing Association have put up 'no cold calling' signs. A 3 year lottery grant had been awarded to prevent door step crime. Visits would be made to vulnerable people to influence them not to accept cold callers. Further discussion to be held at the meeting in August.