

Community Justice Initiative (CJI) – Update

1. At its meeting on 28 July 2008, Cleveland Criminal Justice Board changed its position on rolling out the CJI, from its previous intention of rolling out an approach drawing on the East Middlesbrough pilot to selected areas in other Cleveland Boroughs to one of 'rolling out the principles of CJI' to the whole of the CCJB area. This change was prompted in part by the introduction of eligibility criteria for roll-out by the Ministry of Justice, and in part by concern about the ability of CCJB partner agencies to resource further selective roll-out.

2. The principles in question are identified as three-fold:
 - (a) Universalising the preparation of regular Community Impact Assessments, i.e. written statements for the Courts explaining the impact on particular communities of particular offences – this was said to be a role for Neighbourhood Policing teams, and CI Steve Kilty is preparing a timetable for implementation;

 - (b) availability of visible Community Payback schemes (i.e. unpaid work via Probation Service) across all four Boroughs (this is already in place, and the ASB Team have addressed a number of problems via Community Payback), and

 - (c) Community Engagement: this is not yet fully detailed, but the example cited at the meeting was the willingness of agencies who are in active membership of the CJB, but not of Community Safety Partnerships (e.g. CPS and Courts Service) to attend 'Face the People' sessions organised by Community Safety Partnerships.

3. A written statement has been requested from the CJB detailing the approach, so as to reduce the risk of different understandings.

4. It is proposed to invite the CPS and the Courts Service to attend this Partnership's next Face the People session, to be held in Billingham on Monday 1 September.