

# Safer Stockton Partnership

A meeting of Safer Stockton Partnership was held on Tuesday, 4th August, 2009.

**Present:** Geoff Lee (Tristar Homes - Chairman); Mike Batty, Cllr Mrs Ann McCoy, Cllr Steve Nelson, Jane Humphreys (Stockton Borough Council); Joanne Moore (Cleveland Criminal Justice Board); Russell Portues (Teesside Probation Service); Geoff Turner (Western Area Partnership Board); Jeff Evans (Probation); Ian Garrett (Eastern Area Partnership Board); Barbara Vallance, S Sanderson (Victim Support); A Smailes (Billingham Area Partnership Board); Emma Champley (Stockton DAAT); Anne Howard (Neighbourhood Watch); Norman Wright, Chris Coombs (Cleveland Police Authority); Mick Stoker (Cleveland Fire Authority); Mark Buckley (Cleveland Police); Tina Williams (Central Area Partnership Board); John Bentley (Safe in Tees Valley).

**Officers:** Fiona Shayler, Marilyn Davies, Richard Poundford, Shaun McLurg (SBC)

**Also in attendance:** David Dunn (GONE)

**Apologies:** were submitted on behalf of Miriam Robertson, Julie Nixon, Matt Spencer, Lucia Saiger, David Brunskill.

## 1 **Draft Minutes - 16th June 2009**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th June were agreed as a correct record.

## 2 **Matters Arising (a) Unpaid Work (No:11 refers)**

Members were provided with a report for information on Community Payback. Members requested that an article be put in Stockton News regarding the Community Payback Scheme and reducing re-offending.

## 3 **Minutes of YOS Management Board 14 July 2009**

The minutes of the YOS Management Board of 14th July 2009 were agreed as a correct record.

## 4 **Action Notes from Scanning & Challenge Group 22 June 2009**

The Action notes from the Scanning and Challenge Group of 22nd June 2009 were noted.

## 5 **Any other business**

It was requested that for future agendas a report back from GONE be added to the agenda.

## 6 **Victim Support Service**

Victim Support provided a presentation to Members on the Service that they provide. The Office was based at Longland Road, Middlesbrough and was open Monday - Friday 8am-8pm. Victim Support provided the following:-

Emotional Support  
Provision of Information  
Signposting to other services  
Advocacy  
Practical help ie. form filling, insurance claims etc.  
Pre Court visit and orientation  
Care provided in witness suites  
Support for family and friends

Additional support was also provided to vulnerable victims. As part of the service they were able to provide:-

House/personal attack alarms  
Lock changes  
Lighting

Gates/fencing  
Taxis/Counselling  
Cleaning of crime scenes

Members held discussion on the service and the funding that they receive. Mike Batty raised the 'Safe at Home' project and would double check that there were no overlaps between the services offered.

AGREED that the presentation be noted.

## **7 Recorded Crime & Disorder**

Members were provided with a report that sets out the recorded crime figures, anti social behaviour disorder codes and Most Serious Violence figures for April – June 2009 compared with April – June 2008.

Members held discussion on the various areas of the report. Members were pleased with the recent policing of the Stockton International Riverside Festival (SIRF) with only 1 recorded crime and over 20 people given a banning order. It was requested that a press release be issued.

The detection rate of 43.9% was a good message to get out to the public to build residents confidence in the police and levels of crime. It was requested that a standard paragraph that Members could use in their newsletters be emailed to all members.

Discussion was held on public houses that were currently under review. It was noted that public houses in Stockton and Yarm had been very co-operative with Officers.

Members were informed of Operation Stockholm and its recent successes in making a number of arrests for drug offences and offenders had received sentences for conspiracy to supply.

Everyone involved was thanked by the Partnership for their hard work.

AGREED that the report be noted.

## **8 Community Safety Plan Quarter 1 (April - June 2009)**

There are a total of 44 targets in the Community Safety Plan for 2008/11. 35 of the targets are on target to achieve (green), three are slightly below expected performance (amber), and six targets were not due an update in this quarter.

Members were provided with an update on the amber targets.

AGREED that the report be noted.

## **9 Reducing Reoffending Action Plan Quarter 1 April - June 2009**

Members may recall that this issue was introduced to the partnership on 19th August 2008 and that a seminar was held on 10th October 2008 to establish:

- a framework to drive this forward
- identify a lead from key agencies
- identify barriers to improving performance.

At the seminar in October it was agreed that we would produce an Action Plan for 2009/10 for the partnership and that this would be included in the suite of documents presented within performance monitoring.

Since that time two areas in the Tees Valley have been designated as Integrated Offender Management areas however Stockton was not one of those. In response to the paper brought to SSP in August 2008 a team has been set up within Stockton probation office working alongside the PPO team to coordinate and drive forward our response.

Quarter one of the action plan was provided along with an exception report explaining any

slippage in performance and/or requirements to update or delete targets.

Members discussed para 5.3 of the Reducing Adult Re-offending Target Monitoring Chart. It was felt that a protocol should be set up with the Integrated Service Areas to develop a programme for newly released prisoners who were parents to under 8 year old children.

Para 8.2 - A report was to be produced for the Partnership on tracking performance for offending behaviour programmes.

Para 8.4 - Difficulty in placing offenders into jobs. It was also stated that Adult Education had lost the contract for training in prisons and was in the process of being taken over by another company. It was felt that continuity was important in this area.

AGREED that the report be noted and that a further report be received on the offending behaviour programme performance.

#### **10 Spend against Partnership Investment Plan**

The details of the actual spend against the Partnership Investment Plan for 2009/10 were provided. There was currently a £4,000 under spend which was held within the pooled budget. Members were requested to submit proposals to Marilyn Davies and they would all be submitted to the next meeting for Members consideration.

AGREED that a further report be submitted to the next meeting.

#### **11 Providing Reassurance Action Plan**

Members would recall that at our last meeting we agreed that we would use the Whatever it Takes process as the template for our providing reassurance agenda. It was also agreed that we would produce an action plan for this meeting.

The action plan had been developed from the WIT action plan to incorporate the additional elements required for this wider agenda. It was proposed that the Safer Stockton Partnership would monitor this action plan and that the local WIT action plan would be monitored by the WIT working group. Updates from the working group would be incorporated into this plan.

Members were asked to consider the report and provide feedback to [claire.sills@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:claire.sills@stockton.gov.uk) and to agree to the proposal to monitor this action plan. However, it was felt that at this stage the report would be withdrawn and a revised version be submitted to the next meeting.

Members held discussion on rental properties in the area and the landlord liaison scheme. It was felt that some areas such as Bowesfield could benefit from works being carried out to the front of these properties and whether landlords would consider utilising the community payback scheme. It was suggested that these comments be reported back to Julie Nixon.

AGREED that the report be revised and submitted to the next meeting.

#### **12 Response to National Consultation on Alcohol**

In May 2009 the Government issued the above consultation document on the proposed new code of practice for alcohol retailers for England and Wales as provided under schedule 4 of the Policing and Crime Bill. A full copy of the document was available from: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/cons-2009-alcohol/>

BALANCE the North East Alcohol Office had prepared a regional response following discussions with members of the Alcohol Regional Advisory Group. The Safer Stockton Partnership contributed to this via its member on the RAG.

Members were provided with a draft response from this group to the consultation. It was based upon the Balance response but adds Stockton specific facts and raised the issue about appropriate funding being available for the introduction of the code to be successful.

The deadline for responses was the 5th August and members were asked to approve the

submission of the response on behalf of the partnership.

AGREED that the response be provided and submitted.

**13 FTP Update (outcome of Thornaby/next proposals)**

The minutes of the last Face the People session held in Thornaby on May 19th were provided.

The next session would be due for September and would take place within the Stockton area. Members will recall that we agreed to hold these sessions in areas with higher levels of crime, disorder and anti social behaviour. To follow this pattern it was suggested that the proposed September session would be held in the Parkfield Mill Lane Pathfinder vicinity.

AGREED that the next session be held in September in the Parkfield Mill Lane area.

**14 Alcohol Needs Assessment & Action Plan**

Members were provided with the assessment of the Needs of Adults Harmed by Alcohol in Stockton on Tees.

It was stated that an alcohol strategy would be produced in November and lots of consultation had been taking place. Work had been taking place on repeat admissions to hospital due to alcohol related illnesses. Investigations around domestic violence and alcohol was being carried out with Harbour as it was felt that there was an under-recording where there were children at home.

Investment was required in preventative measures to reduce the long term effects. However, evidence for any improvements would only be shown in the longer term.

Members felt that the report was very comprehensive.

AGREED that the report be noted.

**15 Community Cashback**

Members were provided with information received from Cleveland Criminal Justice Board (CCJB).

A response was sent suggesting that one of the areas to be included in any Cleveland bid should be upgrading of CCTV infrastructure in appropriate areas, a meeting with Jo Moore from CCJB on 30 July was held to pursue this.

A further meeting would be held to finalise the response.

AGREED that:-

1. The principle of bidding for funds to upgrade CCTV infrastructure in public open spaces be approved.

2. Any other proposals be submitted that match the criteria.

**16 Counter Terrorism**

The status has been downgraded by 1 level. Northern Ireland remain the same.

AGREED that the update be noted.

**17 Communications**

A list of press releases for the period from 5th June to 24th July 2009 was submitted. Copies of the full articles were available from the Community Safety Team.

AGREED that the information be noted.

**18 Specialist Domestic Violence Court Programme**

Members were provided with a letter regarding the Specialist Domestic Violence Court Programme.

AGREED that the information be noted.

**19 Reports Back**

**(a) Renaissance**

**(b) DAAT Groups - Adults Commissioning**

- Young Peoples Commissioning

- Reducing Supply Group

- Offender Management Group

**(c) Area Partnership Boards**

**(d) Children's Fund**

**(e) Parkfield / Mill Lane Neighbourhood Management Board**

(d) Children's Fund

Members were informed that Marilyn Surtees had been appointed as a panel Member.

AGREED that the update be noted.