Safer Stockton Partnership

A meeting of Safer Stockton Partnership was held on Tuesday, 3rd November, 2009.

Present: Geoff Lee (Chairman - Tristar Homes), Cllr Mrs Ann McCoy, Ruth Hill, Mike Batty, Richard Poundford, Shaun McLurg, Jane Humphreys (Stockton on Tees Borough Council), Miriam Robertson (Youth Offending Team), Dave Brunskill (Stockton Police), Jeff Evans, R Portues (Probation), Geoff Turner (Western Area Partnership Board), Emma Champley (Stockton DAAT), Bert Smailes (Billingham Area Partnership Board), Tina Williams (Central Area Partnership Board), Glenis Sanderson (Victim Support), Chris Coombs, Joanne Hodgkinson (Police Authority), W Fletcher (Cleveland Criminal Justice Board).

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

Also in attendance: Cllr Jim Beall. Jacqui Bramley (Teesside University). Steve Brook, Derek Rosamond (Stockton Town Pastors). Kay Howes (GONE).

Apologies: were submitted on behalf of Lucia Saiger, Joanne Moore, Alison Agius, Julie Nixon, Derek Carter, Ted Allen, Gary Gamesby, Anne Howard, Cllr Steve Nelson.

1 Minutes of the meeting held on 15th September 2009

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th September 2009 were agreed as a correct record.

2 Matters Arising

(a) Community Cashback (Minute No.65/09 refers)

Members were informed that Stockton Borough Council was to receive £30,000 in Government financing to upgrade the Borough's CCTV system – with the money coming from cash and assets confiscated from convicted criminals. A further bid for domestic violence perpetrator work had also been submitted but there had been no response as yet. Members wished to thank Joanne Moore and colleagues for their hard work in securing the funding.

3 Minutes of Safeguarding Adults Committee 17 September 2009

The minutes of the Safeguarding Adults Committee of 17th September 2009 were noted.

4 Action Notes from Scanning and Challenge Group 13 October 2009

The action notes from the Scanning and Challenge Group of 13th October 2009 were noted.

5 Any other business

Agenda Papers

Members were informed that in order to reduce costs, the number of coloured copied papers would be reduced where possible. Also, where possible if Members preferred, they could receive the agenda electronically.

Restorative Justice

Members were informed that there would be an item on Restorative Justice in Stockton at the meeting in December.

Agreed that the items be noted.

6 Home Office update

Members were provided with a verbal update from Government Office North East. The White Paper - Future Shape of Public Services, this paper highlighted how CJBs and CDRPs work together.

At the end of November there would be a national launch of the Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy, this would coincide with Baroness Turner coming to the area on 30th November

2009. Members wished to be provided with a list of who had been invited to the launch. Marilyn Davies would provide Members with this.

Discussion was held on alcohol and its relation to violence in families. It was stated that GONE were looking at this matter and how alcohol could be advertised more responsibly. It was stated that GONE were meeting with the Regional Alcohol Team in the next week and would raise some of these issues.

AGREED that the update be noted.

7 A Presentation on Stockton Town Pastors

Members were provided with a presentation on the Street Pastors Scheme which was a group of volunteers operating a scheme similar to the Street Angels scheme that had been operating for sometime in Halifax.

Steve Brock, an ex Police Officer, was a volunteer who was co-ordinating the project, which would be operating on a Friday evening between 9pm and 3am. There were 44 volunteers at present from approximately 11 different Churches. The volunteers would be provided with full training and a handbook had been developed. Further information would be available on the website in the next few weeks. Members of the scheme would be working closely with the Surveillance Centre in Stockton. Stockton Police were also providing the volunteers with some training around licensing issues of public houses and taxis, as well as sexual assault guidance. Volunteers were also being provided with first aid training.

Members were shown a picture of the Uniform and were provided with some advice of Members of the Partnership.

Jane Humphreys asked to be sent a copy of the handbook so that she could offer advice particularly in relation to safeguarding adults and children.

In respect to a query Revd. Derek Rosamund confirmed that participation in this scheme would be open to people from all faiths and people of no faith.

Members held discussion on the project and felt that it could be made more inclusive. Members also felt it was important to ensure that the service was evaluated properly and that training was kept up to date. Members suggested that Mental Health Training could be useful.

AGREED that the presentation be noted and that Members receive an update once the scheme was up and running.

8 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 – September 2009 compared with April – September 2008. Members held discussion on the figures.

AGREED that the report be noted.

9 Community Safety Plan Quarter 2 (July - September 2009)

There were a total of 44 targets in the Community Safety Plan for 2008/11. 31 of the targets were on target to achieve (green), six were slightly below expected performance (amber), and two targets were red and five were not due an update in this quarter.

The red and amber targets were addressed in full.

AGREED that the update be noted.

10 Youth Justice Plan Quarter 2

Members were provided with the Youth Justice Plan Quarter 2. Members were informed that the

trend for first time entrants in the youth justice system was continuing to decrease.

AGREED that the report be noted.

11 Reducing Reoffending Action Plan Quarter 2 (July - September 2009)

There were a total of 30 targets in the Reducing Re-offending Action Plan. 21 of the targets were on target to achieve (green), five were slightly below expected performance (amber), one target was red, one target received no update and the remaining two targets were not due an update in this quarter. This report highlighted all targets which were amber or red. It must be noted that the green targets may include subsections which may be regarded as amber, but were likely to be achieved and therefore not detailed within the report.

Members were informed that some further information was required from the prison service with relation to resettlement accommodation. Matt Spencer will be contacted to request this information.

AGREED that the report be noted.

12 Spend against Partnership Investment Plan

At our meeting on 15th September Members discussed the current situation with the Partnership Investment Plan and in particular the under spend which was projected as £8,005. Members were asked to submit details of proposals of how we should spend this money and a number of options were discussed and agreed.

A further £1,000 had been identified and it was suggested that this be used for a further day of Problem Solving Training.

AGREED that the report be noted and that a further day of Problem Solving Training be arranged.

13 Consultation Strategy 2010 - update

At our meeting on 15th September members agreed to follow the same consultation process in 2010 by producing a Crime and Disorder Audit in August followed by 9 weeks of intense consultation that would conclude at the end of October. The draft report would be ready for 23rd March 2010. Response targets for members were agreed and members of the Partnership were encouraged to get their staff to complete the forms. PCSO's would be encouraging residents to complete the forms.

AGREED that the update be noted.

14 Reassurance Plan

A draft action plan was brought to the meeting on 2nd July 2009 which was broadly based on the Whatever it Takes action plan where it was agreed that we would assess the process being used to provide reassurance and an action plan for other areas and bring a paper to a future meeting.

The evaluation of Whatever it Takes was currently underway and a summary would be brought to the December meeting.

In the interim period the Community Safety Analyst had been analysing actual crime and ASB data against levels of fear of crime and perceptions of ASB using the results from the Place Survey across each ward in the Borough and the MORI results.

In summary we can see that ten wards have a higher fear of crime rank than their total crime rate rank. There were also ten wards which perceived higher levels of ASB than the actual reported rate of ASB incidents would suggest. The aim was that this process would be adapted for each ward where an intervention was necessary and that an action plan would be developed for each separate ward in a rolling programme based on ongoing analysis.

It was therefore proposed that we start the process in one of the wards with higher perceptions than actual levels of crime and ASB. The area should have some established community groups

that could be strengthened through this process.

Members were requested to consider the report and endorse the proposal to commence our Providing Reassurance programme in one of the recommend wards of Village, Roseworth, Norton West, Fairfield and Ingleby Barwick West. Any comments on the report should be submitted to anna.clark@stockton.gov.uk.

Following discussion members agreed that Roseworth would be selected as the providing reassurance area. Cllr Beall welcomed this.

AGREED that the report be noted and that Members provide further comments by email.

15 Fire Service - Billingham Proposals

Consultation was being extensively undertaken regarding the Billingham Fire Service proposals.

AGREED that the update be noted.

16 Launch of Alcohol Strategy: Partnership Involvement

In April 2009 the Drug & Alcohol Action Team gained responsibility for co-ordinating a strategic response to addressing alcohol harm in Stockton. Following this a comprehensive alcohol needs assessment for adults was conducted. This, along with the needs assessment already produced regarding young people, has informed the content of a three year Alcohol Strategy for Stockton; "Stockton Calls Time on Alcohol Harm." The Strategy was to be formally launched on Wednesday 25 November 2009, 11.00 am - 1.00 pm, at the Ballroom, Preston Hall Museum. All members of SSP had been invited to attend the launch.

Members were asked to think of ways to raise alcohol awareness in their workplaces. It was requested that the audit tool on alcohol units be forwarded to Members of the Partnership for them to disseminate around staff.

AGREED that the report be noted.

17 Counter Terrorism

No further changes since the last meeting.

18 Communications

Members were provided with the list of press releases from SSP for the period of the 1st September 2009 to 16th October 2009 Copies of the full articles were available from the Community Safety Team.

AGREED that the report be noted.

19 Regulation of Lap Dancing Clubs

This consultation paper, which could be found on the Home Office website at http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/documents/cons-2009-sev/, sets out the Government's proposals for the implementation of the amendments to Schedule 3 to the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 ('the 1982 Act') made by the Policing and Crime Bill.

A response was required from the Partnership.

AGREED that the propsed response be endorsed.

20 GONE Community Safety Business Plan Review

Members were provided with a letter from GONE regarding the focus of their business plan.

AGREED that the report be noted.

21 **Reports Back**

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