

Safer Stockton Partnership

A meeting of Safer Stockton Partnership was held on Tuesday, 15th December, 2009.

Present: Geoff Lee (Chairman - Tristar), Cllr Mrs Ann McCoy, Cllr Steve Nelson, Jane Humphreys, Mike Batty, Paul Green (SBC); Russell Portues, Jeff Evans (Probation Service), Dave Brunskill (Police), Anne Howard (Neighbourhood Watch), John Bentley (Safe in Tees Valley); Joanne Hodgkinson (Cleveland Police Authority); Allison Agius (Catalyst); Ian Garrett (Eastern Area Partnership Board); Bert Smailes (Billingham Area Partnership Board); Miriam Robertson (Stockton YOS).

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

Also in attendance: Pat McManus (GONE), Cllr Jim Beall (SBC); Jacqui Bramley (Teesside University - Observing)

Apologies: were submitted on behalf of Richard Poundford, Ted Allen, Chris Coombs, Ruth Hill, Ian Harrington, Shaun McLurg, Julie Nixon.

1 **Minutes of the Meeting 3rd November 2009**

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd November were agreed as a correct record.

2 **Matters Arising**

Stockton Town Pastors

Members were informed that the handbook had not yet been received and that an update would be requested from Andy Fox.

GONE

Baroness Turner had visited GONE on 30th November and the visit had proved successful.

Alcohol Strategy

Members were informed that the Alcohol Strategy had been well received.

3 **Minutes of YOS Management Board 10 November 2009**

The minutes of the YOS Management Board of 10th November 2009 were agreed as a correct record.

4 **Minutes of Safeguarding Adults Committee 19 November 2009**

The minutes of the Safeguarding Adults Committee held on 19th November 2009 were agreed as a correct record.

5 **Any Other Business - Identification**

It was requested that an update be provided by Neighbourhood Watch at the next meeting.

6 **Home Office update**

Members were updated on the latest Government White Paper that considered police accountability, domestic violence orders, community confidence.

HMIC were focusing on partnership working.

Funding for anti social behaviour had been awarded and would come through the local authority, the funding would need to be spent by 2011.

There were two documents available relating to 'Seeing Justice Done' that would be sent out to Members.

Baroness Turner interviewed approximately 15 people between 10am - 6pm during her visit on 30th November 2009.

Members were informed that Brian Moore of ACPO had written a paper on how to deal with perpetrators with approximately 10 recommendations. It was available to view on the website, and a copy would be distributed to Members.

There were 75 key actions attached to the National Violence to Women and Girls strategy. These would be fed into the EIT review of Domestic Violence.

AGREED that the update be noted.

7 Restorative Justice

Members were provided with a presentation on restorative justice by Dave Walker, Reparations Manager with the YOS and Peter Lowe, Manager at the Childrens Society.

The role of restorative justice was outlined, which included:-

Meeting the Victim - Need to listen, understand and acknowledge.

Making Amends - Victim awareness, confrontation, mediation, reparation and sorry, feedback and progress.

There were 12 sessional workers that work on a one to one basis with young people. A case manager will consider the seriousness of the offence, consequences, young persons understanding of their behaviour and why they are taking part in reparation.

The offender will take part in various schemes through Community Payback.

£100k goes into restorative justice each year and national research has suggested that for every £1 spent on this a saving of £8 is made.

It is felt that restorative justice puts faith back into the community by making them feel safer, justice is done and faith restored.

AGREED that the presentation be noted.

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 – October 2009 compared with April – October 2008.

CONCLUDED that the update be noted.

9 DAAT Q2 Performance

The report to National Treatment Agency on adult drug treatment plan progress – 2009/10 should be completed by the Partnership and returned to the NTA regional team following quarter end. It was noted that some parts of the report would need further explanation.

AGREED that future consideration of this report should include additional explanatory commentary.

10 Meeting Dates for 2010/11

The following dates were proposed for 2010/11 as follows:-

6 July 2010
17 August 2010
28 September 2010
9 November 2010

21 December 2010
15 February 2011
29 March 2011
10 May 2011

AGREED that the dates be approved.

11 ASB and Hate Crime Minimum Standards

A comprehensive set of minimum standards have been proposed by the Regional Community Cohesion Learning Network who would provide support to local areas to help them to achieve the standards. The document provides local information of where we currently were from a multi agency perspective.

The standards related to:

Third party reporting
Hate incident case management
Prevention activity

It was proposed by the RCCLN that the CDRP would play a key role in ensuring that the standards are met, however ownership of the operational activity will sit within each partner agency.

Alongside of this the Home Office have announced a package of support to help partners tackle anti social behaviour and keep neighbourhoods safe and confident. As part of the package we were expected to set and publicise minimum standards.

The standards could vary from area to area but we were encouraged to set as a minimum the following:

- a) Reduce perceptions of ASB year on year;
- b) Take reported cases of ASB seriously; recording, investigating and keeping victims informed of action taken;
- c) Provide regular information to residents on what action is being taken to tackle ASB;
- d) Offer support and practical help to victims of ASB;
- e) Ensure an effective link between neighbourhood policing and neighbourhood management;
- f) Provide residents with a right of complaint to the CDRP if effective action is not taken by local agencies through existing channels.

Additional funding had been offered to Stockton of £44,000 it was not clear at the moment what the time scales were for the funding but indications were that it does not have to be spent in this financial year.

It was suggested by the Home Office that this funding should be used for:

- a) Training for frontline staff;
- b) Environmental clean up campaigns, in selected neighbourhoods to demonstrate quick, visible difference to residents;
- c) Support for community led projects to engage young people; and
- d) Offering support to victims of ASB.

Robust reporting, recording and investigation procedures for ASB cases and a scrutiny process were in place in Stockton for any unresolved issues.

Members were asked to consider proposed standards and to endorse the proposals.

Dave Brunskill stated that he was going to set up a team to ring back victims of crime to let victims know the outcome and what action has taken place.

AGREED that:-

1. A monitoring role for the Hate Crime standards will be adopted.
2. Our capacity be increased to provide feedback and reassurance to victims and witnesses.

12 PPO/HCC/IOM Annual Report

The PPO programme was introduced to direct resources to the small number of offenders said to be responsible for a disproportionate amount of all crime. The programme was introduced in all areas of England and Wales from the 6th September 2004, and had been implemented by Crime and Disorder partnerships and Community Safety partnerships across all area of England and Wales. The scheme in Stockton commenced in September 2004 with an initial caseload of 23 and has now grown to a caseload of between 40- 42.

Over the course of the year the dedicated PPO team consisting of a manager, a Probation officer, a Police Officer and an outreach worker had remained constant. However the overall structure of the dedicated team of reducing re-offending has changed and was outlined within the report.

Since the Introduction of the PPO scheme there had been a closer alignment with the Criminal Justice Intervention Programme (CJIT), the development of the Drug Rehabilitation requirements (DRRs) and the latest development of Integrated Offender management (IOM)

Members were provided with a report that highlighted some of the key issues and contributions that the scheme had delivered this year together with an updated position as to how we were tackling the re-offending challenge.

AGREED that the report be noted.

13 Whatever it Takes Evaluation

In January 2009 the Fire Service suggested using a multi agency approach for a specific area within the Borough in an effort to increase feelings of safety and provide reassurance.

Analysis was undertaken and three areas were identified that had high levels of crime, disorder and anti social behaviour and raised levels of fear of crime based on the results from MORI. The areas were part of the Mandale and Victoria ward, Stockton Town Centre and Hardwick. Further analysis was carried out and following discussion at SSP it was agreed that we would commence a project in a specified area of the Mandale and Victoria ward.

A working group was established and we used fire service volunteers, PCSOs and the ASB team to do a door to door survey to identify what the major concerns were for residents. Work commenced in earnest in May and an action plan was developed.

During November a further survey was conducted asking the same questions. This was again conducted by one to one interviews and was randomised across the area capturing 206 responses. During the project overall crime fell by -17% in the area, across the borough during the same period the reduction was 9% this remains consistent with figures prior to the commencement of the project.

We have learned a number of lessons from the project that would assist in the next phase of providing reassurance that was to be delivered in Roseworth.

It had been difficult to assess the full impact of the project in this time frame, there will be further monitoring and assessment of phase one and what we learn will help for future phases. The project had proved effective in developing a multi agency response without additional funding and some of the initiatives used can continue with limited budget implications.

Members held discussion on the work that had taken place.

AGREED that the report be noted.

14 Counter Terrorism

Members were informed that funding had been received from Government to prevent violence extremism.

AGREED that the update be noted.

15 Communications

Members were provided with a list of press releases from SSP for the period of the 17th of October 09 – 1st December 09 Copies of the full articles were available from the Community Safety Team.

16 Reports Back

(a) Renaissance

(b) DAAT Groups

- **Adults Commissioning**

- **Young People's Commissioning**

- **Reducing Supply Group**

- **Offender Management Group**

(c) Area Partnership Boards

(d) Children's Fund

(e) Parkfield / Mill Lane Neighbourhood Management Board

Renaissance

At the December meeting of the Renaissance Board the Audit Commission Lead Inspector for Comprehensive Area Assessment had presented her report for the year on the performance of public services in our Borough. There had been some debate about the absence of a 'Green Flag' for community safety. The Head of Community Protection reported that he was undertaking some analysis of the national spread of results and would report this to a future meeting.

AGREED that the report back be noted and that there were no further reports back at this meeting.