

Safer Stockton Partnership

A meeting of Safer Stockton Partnership was held on Tuesday, 29th March, 2011.

Present: Geoff Lee (Chairman), Cllr Jim Beall, Mike Batty, Steven Hume (Stockton on Tees Borough Council), Darren Best (Cleveland Police), Joanne Hodgkinson (Cleveland Police Authority), John Bentley (Safe in Tees Valley), Jeff Evans (Probation), Lucia Saiger (DTV Probation Trust), Sam Gibbons (Junior Neighbourhood Watch), Aylia Atherley (Catalyst), Ruth Hill (PCT), Dave Pickard (Vela Group), Ian McHugh, Paul Kirton (Cleveland Fire Brigade), Emma Champley (DAAT), Jim Willoughby (Holme House), Michael Porter, Chris Coombs (Cleveland Police Authority).

Officers: Marilyn Davies, Nigel Laws (DNS); Fiona McKie (LD).

Also in attendance: Ben Ineson (Durham University)

Apologies: were submitted on behalf of Tina Williams, Glenis Sanderson, Jane Humphreys, Paul Green, Ted Allen, Jim Beall, Richard Poundford, Julie Nixon, Allison Agius, Tony Churchill.

1 Minutes of the Previous Meeting - 15th February 2011

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th February 2011 were agreed as a correct record.

2 Matters Arising

(a) Sex Work Research (No. 2 refers)

(b) Drugs Rehabilitation for Sex Workers (No. 7 refers)

(a) there was no further update report.

(b) An internal piece of research was being carried out by the DAAT.

3 Minutes of Safeguarding Adults Committee 13 January 2011

The minutes of the Safeguarding Adults Committee of 13th January 2011 noted for information.

4 Any other Business

5 Cleveland Police Authority Savings Plan

Members were updated on the delivery of Project I, which was the outsourcing of back office functions to make savings.

The CPA forecast was to decrease to £15.2 million over 4 years with £12.7 million of these cuts in the first two years. Partnership funding was also expected to reduce by £1 million. However the precept had been frozen for 2011/12.

Members were informed of the plans to build a new Police HQ, the budget for this would be cost neutral. The land at Ladgate Lane would be sold and a smaller more energy efficient HQ could be built. The costs of running the new site in comparison to the Ladgate Lane site would be significantly reduced. It was also noted that the Ladgate Lane site would require significant maintenance over the next few years.

Members discussed Community Policing and had understood that a review of PCSO's was due to be taking place. It was requested that the Chief Constable be invited to attend a meeting to provide an update on this matter.

AGREED that the update be noted and that the Chief Constable be invited to a future meeting.

6 Recorded Crime & Disorder

Members were provided with a report that set out the recorded crime figures (including Most Serious Violence) and anti social behaviour disorder codes for April 2010 – February 2011 compared with the same period the previous financial year.

Discussion was held on crime figures and it was reported that there had been 19 robberies over the last year. Each robbery was reviewed and there was a 100% detection rate.

There had been more reporting of prostitution.

A news release would be distributed on crime figure over the last 8 years to hopefully improve reassurance.

AGREED that the figures be noted.

7 DAAT Q3 Performance

Members were provided with the DAAT Quarter 3 Performance Report. It was reported that a small nucleus of people repeatedly reoffend and intensive works need to be done to prevent this. The length of the sentences needs to be looked at that is given to these people.

Discussion was held on the drug recovery wing and it was anticipated that more concentrated work would be able to take place once this was established.

It was noted that the figures for those who were Drug Free when exiting treatment was encouraging.

AGREED that the report be noted.

8 Planned Reports 2011/12

Members were provided with the first draft schedule of planned reports for 2011/12 - in effect, a work programme for the Partnership - which had been populated with reports and other items which were already evident.

It was requested that Other Theft and Emerging Issues (to include Prostitution) be added to the list.

AGREED that the Work Programme for 2011/12 be noted.

9 Community Safety Plan 2011-2014 - final approval

Members were provided with the second draft of the partnership's Community Safety Plan for 2011-2014. This would be the final draft once baselines were added in April 2011.

It was proposed that an action plan be developed for each key priority.

Members were asked to read the attached plan and send any comments to marilyn.davies@stockton.gov.uk no later than 8th April 2011. Members would be sent a copy of the plan by e mail any member who would like a hard copy of the plan should contact claire.sills@stockton.gov.uk 01642 527616 no later than 8th April 2011.

Members felt that it was a good piece of work that was logically written.

AGREED that the report be noted and the draft plan be approved.

10 Theory of Change training

Members of the community safety team were recently invited to attend a training session run by HelmePark on behalf of Sunderland City Council. The training ran over two days and was free of charge, paid for from a reward grant made to Sunderland for innovation.

It had been suggested that the Safer Stockton Partnership could request a further training package for the partnership delivered to us by HelmePark free of charge to this partnership as it would be part of requirement for Sunderland to spread best practice therefore paid for via their grant allocation. This report provided a definition of the model of Theory of Change used and a summary of how it could be useful for the partnership.

Members were interested in taking part in the training.

AGREED that a further training session be requested.

11 Publication of PSA

The Community Safety Team had been asked to publish the Partnership Strategic Assessment on the Safer Stockton website. Members would be aware that previously a summary in Stockton News had been published and also put the summary on to the website.

The data within the PSA does not belong to either the council or the partnership permission must be sought from each of the data owners for the full document to go into the public domain.

This report was the first stage in the process of seeking agreement to publish the PSA. If partners were in agreement the Community Safety Analyst would write to each of the data providers to seek their agreement and provided this was given the document could be made available via our website.

Members were asked to consider the proposal and if there was consensus to publish our PSA to provide the appropriate contact within their organisation. Contact details should be passed to anna.clark@stockton.gov.uk.

AGREED that a letter be sent to data owners and a further response be provided at the next meeting.

12 New ASB Powers

On February 7th the Government released the 31 page consultation paper 'More effective responses to anti social behaviour' which runs until 3rd May 2011. This followed the Ministry of Justice green paper 'Breaking the Cycle' and an announcement on January 11th about the proposed introduction of a new additional mandatory ground for possession for anti social behaviour and an extension of probationary tenancies to cover all social landlords.

In January the Housing Minister announced a review of probationary tenancies and the proposal to introduce a new mandatory possession ground which would be available to all social landlords. At the time of writing this report a date for the introduction of these new measures was not known. This measure was complemented by £300,000 of renewed funding for a new central team within the Chartered Institute of Housing to help tenants and landlords tackle anti social behaviour.

Further reform was contained in the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) green paper 'Breaking the Cycle' which suggests changes to Penalty Notices for Disorder to make them more rehabilitative and the move to more out-of-court disposals for young people to include swift restorative sanctions as well as encouraging parents to take more responsibility.

This report covered the new proposals and provided a draft response to the questions posed in the consultation document. It was requested that any comments be provided by mid April.

AGREED that the response be approved, subject to any further comments submitted by mid April.

13 Evaluation of Bonfire Night / Operation Trojan

Members were provided with a summary of the activity in Stockton in the run up to Mischief and Bonfire night. The summary was taken from Cleveland Fire Brigade's evaluation of Bonfire-Fireworks Strategy 2010 and supplements the report brought to SSP on December 21st which covered activity from the Police and Council. The date range for this evaluation was from 22nd October to 12th November 2010 and for the same time period during 2009, 2008, 2007, and 2006.

The report encompassed the work carried out by the Police and the Council and its findings were intended to be used to enable effective review and planning of the bonfire strategy for 2011.

It was stated that Junior Neighbourhood Watch could carry out work within Schools prior to bonfire

night to raise awareness.

AGREED that the report be noted.

14 Stockton Town Centre - prospectus

Members were provided with a presentation from Nigel Laws on Stockton High Street - Our Vision.

Detail was provided on all of the positive aspects that Stockton had to offer such as the Riverside, University, ARC, and the re-opening of the Globe Theatre. Officers were endeavouring to encourage private investment.

It was reported that the visual image of the high street was to be opened up to enable views if the river to be seen. Some short stay parking on the high street had also been proposed to hopefully generate more business on the high street.

Stockton library was currently undergoing a 1.9 redevelopment. The Shambles were also due to be refurbished together with investment in the Historic Quarter.

Discussion was held on CCTV and where it would be placed in the High Street. It was stated that a working group would look into this matter to make sure that planting schemes etc. were taken into consideration when placing the CCTV.

It was stated that the parking places on the high street would be available for taxis to use during the evening, as the importance of moving the night time economy on as quickly as possible was highlighted.

AGREED that the report and comments be noted.

15 Response to Justice Green Paper

Members were provided with the response to 'Breaking the Cycle: Effective Punishment, Rehabilitation and Sentencing of Offenders'.

AGREED that the response be noted.

16 Counter Terrorism

No further update.

17 Communications

Members were provided with the list of press releases from SSP for the period of 31st January 2011- 16th March Copies of the full articles were available from the Community Safety Team.

18 Institute for Local Governance

The Institute for Local Governance which is a consortia of the five North East Universities maybe undertaking research into the work that we have done.

AGREED that a further update would be provided in due course.

19 Reports Back

(a) Renaissance

(b) DAAT Groups

- Adults Commissioning
- Young Peoples Commissioning
- Reducing Supply Group
- Offender Management Group

(c) Area Partnership Boards

(d) Parkfield/Mill Lane Neighbourhood Management Board

None

20 Date of next meeting - Tuesday 10 May 2011 at 9.30 a.m.