

Safer Stockton Partnership

A meeting of Safer Stockton Partnership was held on Tuesday, 10th May, 2011.

Present: Geoff Lee (Chairman - Tristar/VELA), Cllr Steve Nelson, Jane Humphreys, Mike Batty, Regina Harrington(SBC), Tony Churchill (Cleveland Fire), Miriam Robertson (Youth Offending Service), Paul Kirton (Cleveland Fire Authority), Bert Smailes (Northern Area Partnership Board), Jeff Evans (Probation), Emma Champley , Jo Heaney (Stockton DAAT), Ted Allen (Stockton Police) Paul Noddings (Tristar Homes), Sam Gibbons (Junior Neighbourhood Watch), Christine Goodman (Victim Support), Chris Coombs (Cleveland Police Authority), Jim Willoughby (Holme House), Neville Cameron (CPA), John Bentley (Safe in Tees Valley), Darren Best (Police), Ruth Hill (PCT)

Officers: Fiona McKie, Marilyn Davies, Steven Hume (SBC).

Also in attendance: Angela Cross, Emma Rowell-Owen (ABS Lifeline), Deborah Bowden (PCT).

Apologies: were submitted on behalf of Lynne Massam, Dave Pickard, Richard Poundford.

1 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 29th March 2011 were agreed as a correct record.

2 Matters Arising

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

(b) Residential Rehabilitation provision for Sex Workers (No.2 (b) refers)

(c) PCSOs (No. 5 refers) - ACC Dave Pickard will attend the next meeting of the Partnership on 5 July 2011

(d) News release, crime figures (No. 6 refers)

(e) Publication of PSA (No. 11 refers)

(a) No Further update at present.

(b) To be discussed later in the agenda.

(c) Update on PCSO's will be provided at the next meeting.

(d) Press release was provided for information. It was noted that the Gazette also ran an article the following day.

(e) A letter to data owners has been drafted and will be distributed later in the week, with copies to the representatives on this partnership of the relevant agencies.

3 Minutes of YOS Management Board 5 April 2011

The minutes of the YOS Management Board of 5th April 2011 were noted.

4 Minutes of Safeguarding Adults Committee 14 April 2011

The minutes of the Safeguarding Adults Committee held on 14th April 2011 were noted.

5 Action Notes from Scanning & Challenge Group 28 March 2011

The Action notes from the Scanning and Challenge Group of 28th March 2011 were noted.

6 Any other Business

None

7 ABS/Lifeline

Members were provided with a presentation from the Stockton Alcohol Service on Partnership working between the Lifeline Project and TEWV Addictive Behaviour Service.

Detail was provided on the entry route to the Stockton Alcohol Service, many self refer or are referred via a relative/carer, GP, Social Services or via arrest referral.

The Treatment options were highlighted which included, care co-ordination, psychological interventions, community detoxification, cognitive behaviour therapy, structured activities etc.

The referral criteria for ABS were as follows:-

- Severely dependent clients with a score of 30 or more on AUDIT
- Dual diagnosis clients
- Pregnant women
- Pre-existing physical health problems

The Service had close links with ABS and intensive partnership support especially around Tier 4. Work was continuing with Holme House Prisoners to remain drug/alcohol free once they were released.

Discussion was held on funding as it was felt that the funding was insufficient, a further needs assessment was being carried out which would highlight which areas would benefit from additional funding if it were available.

It was noted that people presenting for treatment for alcohol services were younger with health related problems that were usually present only in older people in the past eg. severe liver disease.

It was stated that the service would be able to bring data back in 6 months as part of the evaluation of the service but full data would not be available for till the service had been operating for 12 months.

AGREED that the presentation be noted and a further evaluation of the project be provided at a later date.

8 Prostitution

In April 2010, the legislation in relation to prostitution, namely The Street Offences Act 1959, was amended to incorporate the word 'persistent'. The impact of this was that a person had to be caught committing the offence on two or more occasions in a period of three months before they could be arrested for the offence. Previously the person had to be caught on two or more occasions in a period of twelve months.

Under the old legislation, once a person had been caught on two or more occasions and convicted by a court, they were termed a 'common prostitute' and could be arrested each time they were caught committing the offence.

The new legislation has done away with the term 'common prostitute' so, if a person is not found committing the offence within a three month period after being convicted at court, they cannot be arrested and will start from the cautioning procedure again.

It was reported that there had been an increase in prostitution in the Yarm Road Area, a number of girls had been identified and work was being carried out to address this issue. There had been an increase in reporting by local residents.

Some prostitutes work from their home. If they were living in a Tristar property then it would be a breach of the tenancy but most live in private rented accommodation.

AGREED that the report and update be noted.

9 Recorded Crime & Disorder

Members were provided with a report that sets out the recorded crime figures (including Most Serious Violence) and anti social behaviour disorder codes for the full financial year 2010-11 compared to 2009-10. The report also provided crime rates for 2010-11 for the whole of the Tees

Valley.

AGREED that the report and update be noted.

10 Community Safety Plan Q4

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), five were slightly below expected performance (amber), and three targets were red and five were not due an update in the final quarter.

Members discussed the success of Pubwatch.

AGREED that the updated be noted.

11 YOS Q4

Members were provided with the Youth Offending Service Quarter 4 performance report.

AGREED that the report be noted.

12 Spend against Partnership Investment Plan

Members were provided with the Spend against Partnership Investment Plan. There had been no underspend.

AGREED that this report no longer needed to be considered as a standing item.

13 Alcohol Strategy Action Plan

Members were provided with the Action Plan for the Alcohol Strategy.

It was reported that discussions would be held with GP's to gather information with regard to why we are not meeting the target to reduce the number of alcohol related admissions.

Further consideration was being given to how we engage with women and young adults. A drop in service for Women only had been introduced.

With regard to the reduction in alcohol related Domestic Violence, it was reported that Lifeline and Harbour were looking to run a perpetrator programme.

AGREED that the action plan and comments be noted.

14 Impact of Social Norms

AGREED that this matter be considered at the next meeting.

15 Domestic Homicide Reviews

DHRs were established on a statutory basis under section 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act (2004). The provision of DHRs came into force on 13th April 2011. Under the new arrangements DHRs should be carried out to ensure that lessons were learned when a person has been killed as a result of domestic violence.

Domestic violence includes physical violence, psychological, sexual, financial and emotional abuse which can involve partners, ex-partners, relatives or other members of the household. The current Stockton Partnership Strategic Assessment highlights that over the last 12 months Domestic Violence accounted 33% of all recorded violent crime. There had been one Domestic Homicide in Stockton in the last 5 years.

The provision allows the Secretary of State, in particular cases (e.g. when a local area fails to initiate a review itself) to direct that a specified person or body establishes or participates in a

review. Section 9 also introduces a duty for every person or body establishing or participating in the review to have regard to the statutory guidance.

Members discussed the paper. It was stated that support funding had been reduced, therefore there was an issue regarding capacity. It was stated that incidents were rare but required expertise and a lot of time. It was requested that further information be brought to the next meeting.

AGREED that the report be noted and that a further update be brought to the next meeting.

16 SARC Report

This briefing gives an overview of the recommendations made by the National Support Team relating to current Tees Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) Services. The Board were invited to receive and consider the briefing and the draft action plan.

As part of the response to talking violence and abuse, particularly sexual violence against women and girls, there was a desire nationally and locally to improve access to effective services for victims. Sexual Assault and Referral Centre (SARC) services had been developed to meet this need.

The local SARC service opened in 2007 and was commissioned by Cleveland Police and the four Primary Care Trusts. The budget for Helen Britton House was currently £170,000 a year with each PCT contributing 19% and Cleveland Police contributing 24% of the budget. This excluded the cost of forensic physicians and follow-on SARC services.

The National Support Team (NST) for Response to Sexual Violence offered to visit Tees to support the local area partnerships to ensure there was effective SARC provision. The visit lasted 2 days (18th and 19th January 2011) and included a visit to the SARC team at Helen Britton House, North Ormesby Health Village, stakeholder discussion and workshops. Feedback was given on the strengths and challenges & provided a set of recommendations.

A report had since been received which documents a number of strengths that were highlighted, 50 recommendations and 6 key recommendations made by the NST. The recommendations were grouped under the following headings:

- Key recommendations
- Needs assessment, information and data
- Partnership arrangements
- Strategy & commissioning
- Health & Social Care
- Police
- Crown Prosecution Service (CPS)
- SARC Operations
- Forensic science
- Third sector
- Mental Health

AGREED that the report be noted.

17 Year 3 EIT Review of Community Safety & Security

The purpose of this report was to provide the Committee with an outline of the services covered by the Year 3 EIT Review of Community Safety and Security Services, with a particular emphasis on their net costs. Officers were confident that the savings could be achieved without a major impact on service provision.

AGREED that the report be noted.

18 Drugs Research

Stuart Honor had undertaken further research into the views of drug users in Stockton-on-Tees in

2010, as he did in 2008, again using a 'snowball sampling' approach based on training former or current drug users to undertake interviews, following their own social networks.

Members were provided with the conclusions to the report for information.

AGREED that the report be noted.

19 Counter Terrorism

Awaiting further papers from the Government on this matter.

20 Communications

Members were provided with the list of press releases from SSP for the period of March 18th – April 22nd. Copies of the full articles were available from the Community Safety Team.

AGREED that the Press Releases be noted.

21 Reports Back

a) Renaissance

b) DAAT Groups

- **Adults Commissioning**

- **Young Peoples Commissioning**

- **Reducing Supply Group**

- **Offender Management Group**

c) Area Partnership Boards

None

22 Date of next meeting - Tuesday 5 July at 9.30 a.m.