

Safer Stockton Partnership

A meeting of Safer Stockton Partnership was held on Tuesday, 14th August, 2012.

Present: Geoff Lee (Chairman); Cllr Jim Beall, Cllr Steve Nelson, , Mike Batty, Ruth Hill, Jane Humphreys, Paul Green, Caroline Wood, Heather Hutchings, Claire Sills (Stockton on Tees Borough Council); Chris Coombs (Cleveland Police Authority); Bert Smailes (Northern Area Partnership Board); Cllr Tracey Stott (Eastern Area Partnership Board); David Toor, Rob Donaghy (Cleveland Police); Tony Churchill (Cleveland Fire Brigade); Paul Green (Adult Safeguarding Committee); Christine Goodman (Victim Support); John Bentley (Safe in Tees Valley); Jim Willoughby (Holme House); Anthony Lowes (Noms N.E); Rachel Wheater, Christine Goodman (Victim Support); Rhonda Leighton (DTV); Tina Williams (Central Area Partnership Board); Jim Willoughby (Holme House); Jeff Evans (Probation).

Officers: Peter Bell (LD); Steven Hume, Heather Hutchings, Katie Smith (DNS).

Also in attendance: Cllr Barry Coppinger, Cllr Ken Lupton (PCC Candidates)

Apologies: Cllr Mrs Cunningham, Emma Champley, Allison Agius, Miriam Roberts, Lucia Saiger, Richard Poundford, Dave Pickard.

1 **Declarations of Interest**

Tina Williams declared an interest in respect of agenda item 15 - Alcohol Strategy Monitoring/Action Plan as there was an alcohol worker working within her service.

2 **Minutes of Previous Meeting - 26th June 2012**

The minutes of the meeting held on 26th June 2012 were agreed as a correct record.

AGREED that the minutes of the meeting held on 26th June 2012 be approved.

3 **Matters Arising** **(a) PCC Candidates - responses** **(b) Parkfield & Oxbridge Analysis** **(c) Work with Sex Workers**

PCC Candidates Responses

Councillor Ken Lupton and Councillor Barry Coppinger were in attendance at the meeting and their responses to letter sent from Geoff Lee on behalf of the Partnership were circulated to Members.

Parkfield & Oxbridge Analysis

Further information was given on the nature of crimes in Ropner Park. The information allayed the concerns that Members had expressed at the previous meeting of the Partnership.

Work with Sex Offenders

Members discussed the issues around sex workers who were substance misusers and resources issues. Members were informed that a seminar with key partners would be held on 19th September 2012 at 2.00pm at the Jamal Building, Thornaby.

AGREED that the matters arising be noted.

4 Area Partnership Boards - reports back

The representatives for the Area Partnership Boards reported to the Partnership:-

* Western Area - Funding is now available for the skate park and to upgrade the tennis courts at John Whitehead Park.

* Central Area - There is a lack of funding in the Town Centre no that the Corner House has gone and there are no Community Centres. The Town Centre is one of the most deprived wards in the country. Youths are getting involved in using skunk and drinking alcohol on street corners and we need to use diversionary tactics.

* Eastern Area - CCTV cameras had been erected in various hot spots of crime in the area

5 Minutes of YOS Management Board 10 July

Members were provided with a copy of the Youth Offending Service Management Board Minutes of 10th July 2012.

The minutes of the meeting of the YOS Management Board were noted.

6 Action Notes from Scanning & Challenge Group 4 July

Members were provided with a copy of the Scanning and Challenge Group minutes of 4th July 2012.

The minutes of the Scanning and Challenge Group were noted.

7 Any other business

None.

8 Drug Related Offending

Members were presented with a report on drug related offending. The report outlined that reducing drug related offending is the fourth key issue in the 2011-2014 Safer Stockton Partnership Community Safety Plan.

The goals of this issue were to increase the effectiveness of treatment services and offender management in reducing the amount of drug related offending in the borough.

The report provided a summary of the issues which were relevant to reducing drug related offending.

Members then discussed the figures / issues around drug related offending. The following points were raised by Members:-

- * Not surprised figures are down as users are now taking cheaper alternative drugs that do not require them to go out and commit crime
- * There is an issue of what people are being tested for at the police station
- * Crime figures are good but there are still health issues to pick up on
- * There are still issues with low level asb

AGREED that the report be noted.

9 Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy

Members were provided with a copy of the Consultation Briefing Note for Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy Consultation (2013 – 2018) – Stockton-on-Tees.

The Stockton-on-Tees Health and Wellbeing Board were developing a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The purpose of this strategy was to set out how the health and wellbeing needs of the population of Stockton-on-Tees would be addressed over the coming years. The strategy focuses on improving health and wellbeing, tackling health inequalities, and considered the wider determinants of health such as housing, education and the environment.

The consultation period ran between 12th July and 25th August 2012.

All people who were interested in the health and wellbeing of those who live and work in the Borough were invited to participate in this consultation. There were also a number of public engagement events which members of the public had been invited to.

AGREED that the consultation document be noted.

10 Use of Restorative Justice in DTV Probation Trust

Members received a presentation on Use of Restorative Justice in DTV Probation Trust. The presentation covered the following key areas:-

- * Increasing the Provision of Restorative Justice
- * Restorative Justice - Approaches
- * Durham Tees Valley Area
- * Four Tier Approach
- * Partnership Engagement
- * Outputs / Outcomes
- * Evaluation

Members were then give the opportunity to ask questions and make comments on the presentation.

AGREED that the presentation be noted.

11 Recorded Crime & Disorder

Members were provided with the recorded crime and anti-social behaviour figures for April - June 2012/13 compared to the same period in 2011/12 . Overall crime was currently down by 8.3% and ASB incidents were down by

28.1%. Shoplifting was now included as a separate category but it was also included within other theft.

AGREED that the recorded crime and disorder figures be noted.

12 Community Safety Q1 Performance Monitoring

Members were informed that it was no longer possible to monitor target 3.1 Most Serious Violent Crime due to changes in recording practices. The Home Office made a number of amendments to the counting rules for recorded crime as of April 2012 which included some of the codes previously used to formulate Most Serious Violence (MSV).

A new target to reduce Violence With Injury (VWI) was being proposed as an alternative to monitor the more serious offences of violence within Stockton. This measure was very similar to the previous MSV measure in that it included homicide, assaults with injury and causing death by dangerous driving but it was made up of the new HO codes as provided within the report.

Members were provided with a copy of the Community Dashboard and the targets and action plan for 2012/13.

AGREED that the Community Safety Quarter 1 Performance Monitoring report be noted.

13 YOS Q1 Performance Monitoring

Members were provided with the Quarter 1 Performance Monitoring for the Youth Offending Service.

AGREED that the YOS Q1 performance monitoring be noted.

14 Alcohol Strategy Monitoring/Action Plan

The Stockton-on-Tees Alcohol Strategy was implemented in April 2010. The Strategy was a 3 year Strategy with a 2 year Action Plan within it. The 1 year plan for 2012-2013 had been developed to ensure that the strategic aims of the Stockton-on-Tees Alcohol Strategy were continuously achieved. This plan had the needs of young people threaded throughout and covered responsibilities across both adults and children's services.

AGREED that the Alcohol Strategy Monitoring/Action plan be noted.

15 Putting Victims First - More Effective Responses to Anti-social Behaviour - Government White Paper on ASB Powers

The government published the Putting Victims First White Paper in May 2012. The paper sets out how the Government intend to implement changes aimed at improving the response to anti-social behaviour. The White Paper aimed to:

- Improve the understanding of the needs of victims, including those at high risk
- Provide frontline professionals with more freedom to do what they know works
- Empower communities to get involved in tackling anti-social behaviour,

including giving victims and communities the power to ensure action was taken to deal with persistent anti-social behaviour via the 'community trigger'

- Make it easier to demonstrate in court the harm victims were suffering
- Provide professionals with quicker, formal powers, intended to be more effective
- Provide a faster eviction process for the most anti-social tenants
- Tackle underlying issues that drive antisocial behaviour, such as drink and drugs, mental health issues, troubled family backgrounds and irresponsible dog ownership.

The report provided an overview of the White Paper highlighting the key changes and a number of issues that the partnership may wish to consider.

AGREED that the report be noted.

16 Case Studies - Five Prolific Shoplifters

At the previous meeting of the Partnership a discussion took place about the prevalence of shop thefts and the impact this was having on recorded crime. It was identified that six High Crime Causers being managed by the IOM team were responsible for committing 88 convictions out of 154 amassed by the 30 High Crime causers under supervision during 2011/12. The majority of these crimes were shop thefts.

Members were provided with a breakdown of key factors in the history of the six people as previously identified

The IOM team were currently conducting interviews with the individuals in an attempt to motivate them to desist from their persistent offending.

AGREED that the report and information be noted.

17 Diversion from Re-offending

Members were provided with the notes of a visit to Hull on 5 July to discuss their award-winning Minerva Project.

Members of the Partnership were asked to consider the project outline, and whether they would support attempts to adopt a similar approach in Stockton. If there was support for this, then the next stage would be to prepare a Business Plan with outline costings.

Further thinking since the visit has involved the following suggestions:-

(a) a partnership with an existing charity may avoid the need to establish a CIC;

(b) given that any Stockton scheme would be a much smaller scale than the Minerva Project in Hull, and that the initial funding would be much less generous, two areas of work which may commend themselves were painting and decorating, and woodwork. The IOM scheme already had some experience of the latter, in partnership with the Shaw Trust, producing wooden benches, bird tables etc, and there had been some interest expressed in buying these.

(c) there may be some role for local prisons i.e. HMP Holme House and/or HMP Kirklevington; and

(d) there may be some mileage in seeking interest from the Further Education sector.

On 20 July the Big Lottery Fund made a directly relevant announcement about a new funding programme for people with multiple and complex needs.

AGREED that:-

1. The principle of attempting to replicate the Minerva Project approach in Stockton be supported.

2. The Partnership seek funding for this approach and for continuing work with sex workers via the Big Lottery Fund's multiple and complex needs programme.

18 Voice Project

Members received a presentation on The Voice Project. The presentation covered the following key areas:-

- * Community Action Against Crime Innovation Fund
- * Prison Engagement
- * Visitor Centre Drop In
- * Community Engagement
- * Impact of Crime Sessions with Offenders

Members were then give the opportunity to ask questions and make comments on the presentation.

AGREED that the consultation document be noted.

19 Cleveland Police Letter of 18 June and Response

A copy of the letter from the CPA on the Review of Service Delivery and the subsequent response from Councillor Nelson were circulated to Members.

AGREED that the letters be noted.

20 Counter Terrorism

There was no further update on Counter Terrorism.

21 Reports Back

(a) Renaissance

(b) DAAT Groups

- Adults Commissioning

- Young Peoples Commissioning

- Reducing Supply Group
- Offender Management Group

There were no reports back.

22 **Date of next meeting - Tuesday 25 September at 1.30 p.m.**