

A meeting of Safer Stockton Partnership was held on Tuesday, 11th November, 2014.

Present: Geoff Lee (Chair), Cllr Steve Nelson, Dr Neville Cameron (Cleveland Police and Crime Commissioners Office), Gilly Marshall (Thirteen), Ian Coates (Cleveland Police), Jeff Evans (DTV CRC), Miriam Sigsworth (Youth Offending Team), Frederick Gook (Stockton District Neighbourhood Watch), John Bentley (Safe in Tees Valley), Steve Hume, Richard Poundford, Julie Nixon, Peter Kelly (Stockton Council), Steve McCarten, Cllr Paul Kirton (Cleveland Fire Brigade), James Hadman (Catalyst).

Officers: Emma Champley, Jo Heaney, Kerry Anderson (PH); Vicky Hatton, Julie Latham (DNS); S McLurg (CESC); Peter Bell (LD).

Also in attendance: None

Apologies: Cllr Jim Beall, Steve Rose, Claire Sills, Caroline Wood and John Bagley.

1 Introductions/Apologies

Introductions and apologies were given.

2 Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

3 Minutes of Meeting of 7 October 2014

Consideration was given to the minutes of the meeting held on Minutes of Meeting of 7 October 2014.

AGREED that the minutes be approved.

4 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5 Any Other Business - identification only

There was no other business identified.

6 Minutes of Safeguarding Adults Committee 14 October 2014

Consideration of the minutes of the Safeguarding Adults Committee was deferred to the next meeting.

7 Notes of the Scanning and Challenge Group 22 October 2014

Notes of the Scanning and Challenge Group 22 October 2014 were noted.

8 Alcohol Related Offending

Members were presented with a report from the Tactical Team Analysts - Alcohol related crime and ASB in Stockton LPA - April - September 2014.

AGREED that the report be noted.

9 Recorded Crime & Disorder

Consideration was given to a report that provided an overview on crime and anti-social behaviour levels in the borough of Stockton between April to September 2014.

The Key findings were:-

- Between April 2014 and September 2014, both publicly reported (-12.1%) and total crime (-11%) had reduced in the borough of Stockton.
- This equated to 647 fewer victims of crime.
- Comparisons with neighbouring local authority areas also showed that Stockton had seen the biggest reduction to date.
- Stockton also remained the safest place to live in relation to rates per 1000 population for both crime and ASB.
- Despite overall crime reducing, there still continued to be slight increases in offences of violence (52 offences/+5.8%), rape (10 offences/+23.08%) and other sexual offences (10 offences/+13.9%).
- There were no concerns with regards to knife, gun or serious violence in Stockton.
- However there were excellent reductions in several key crime areas: Personal robbery (-16 crimes/-39%), Burglary non-domestic (-102 crimes/-24.5%), Vehicle crime (-120 crimes/-28.7%) and Shoplifting (-102 crimes/-12.6%).
- Burglary dwelling had also reduced this month and was showing a 3.1% decrease on last year. Burglary offences in September also reduced by nearly half with only 27 offences compared to 45 in September 2013.
- The forecast for the end of financial year was also projecting a reduction of 6.1%, the biggest anticipated decrease in crime levels when compared to neighbouring local authorities.
- ASB was also showing a positive picture this period and the Borough was the only local authority area to see a reduction (-1.8%).
- Despite the decrease in ASB, if levels continued at the current rate, then a 6.5% increase was anticipated however the Borough would still have the lowest increase when compared to Hartlepool (13.7%), Middlesbrough (17.9%) and Redcar & Cleveland (17.4%).
- There had been no significant changes to offending locations when compared to last year.
- There were no new emerging issues in relation to crime and disorder in Stockton borough.

AGREED that the report be noted.

10 Community Safety Q2

Consideration was given to a report on the targets for the Community Safety Plan 2014-2017 Quarter 2.

AGREED that the report be noted.

11 Domestic Abuse Strategy Q1 & Q2

Consideration was given to the Domestic Abuse Performance Report April 2014 - September 2014 and the Domestic Abuse Action Plan for 2014/15.

The Domestic Abuse Performance Report provided an overview on research and analysis conducted on a number of data sets linked to domestic abuse within the borough of Stockton.

- Cleveland Police crime and incident reports
- Children, Education and Social Care First Contact Team, SBC
- Housing Options, SBC
- Safe at Home scheme, Community Safety Dept, SBC
- A&E Data, National Health Trust.
- Harbour performance data

The report focused on data from each of the above sources however will feature within differing contexts of the report. For example, when looking at what was occurring in relation to domestic abuse, this would feature data from police incidents and crime performance statistics along with other relevant information.

A number of different databases had been utilised to provide this data which often did not provide personal or in depth information and therefore there were some constraints in reporting.

This document was previously utilised in the Domestic Abuse Strategy Meetings however the report was a work in progress in terms of trying to identify a wide factor of data that could enhance the report and would feed into the strategy through the Health and Wellbeing meetings.

A revised Domestic Abuse strategy was implemented in July 2014 and set out how the Council would work with its partners such as Police and health as well as voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations to promote ways to prevent people being abused and provide support and protection for those who may need it.

The document was shaped through consultation with people who had experienced domestic violence and abuse, their families and perpetrators. Social Care staff who work with families affected by domestic abuse were also asked for their views.

The strategy would be in place until March 2017 and run alongside an identified action plan with set targets and performance measures.

The Domestic Abuse Strategy Action Plan for 2014/15 identified a need to focus on Awareness and Education, Early Intervention and Support and Protection. The actions were all encompassed within these themes. The actions had been segmented into sections relating to Communications and Consultation, Data Collation and Information Sharing, Education and Training and Development of Support Pathways as these were the four key priority areas identified for action during the consultation process undertaken from June to December 2013.

AGREED that:-

1. The Domestic Abuse Performance Report April 2014 - September 2014 be noted.

2. The Domestic Abuse Action Plan for 2014/15 be noted.

12 YOT Q2

The Partnership was presented with the YOT Quarter 2 Performance.

AGREED that the YOT Q2 Performance be noted.

13 CTLP

The Community Safety Manager informed Members that he had attended a meeting at the Home Office regarding proposed changes to anti-terrorism legislation. The Government were keen to ramp up issues around counter terrorism and were looking towards legislation that placed a greater emphasis on Local Authorities taking the lead in Channel and Prevent arrangements.

Stockton already had good arrangements in place and a report would be brought to the next meeting of the Partnership for Members consideration.

AGREED that:-

1. The verbal update be noted.

2. A further report be brought to the next meeting of the partnership.

14 TSVSG update

Members were given an update on the Tees Sexual Violence Group (TSVSG).

It was reported that Claire Sills was attending the TSVSG behalf of the Partnership. Members felt that they needed further information on the TSVSG. It was agreed that Joanne Hodgkinson would attend the next meeting of the Partnership to discuss the objectives of the TSVSG and to answer any questions.

AGREED that:-

1. The update be noted.

2. Joanne Hodgkinson attend the next meeting of the Partnership to discuss the objectives of the TSVSG and to answer any questions.

15 PCC Arrest Referral update

Members were informed that the PCC had agreed to meet partners to discuss Arrest Referrals and the event would be held at Middlehaven Police Station.

AGREED that the update be noted.

16 ASB Crime and Policing Act

Members were given a presentation on the ASB Crime and Policing Act 2014.

The presentation covered the following key areas:-

- * Crime and Disorder Audit 2013
- * Types of ASB
- * Community Safety and Security
- * ASB - Tackling Problems Early
- * ASB - The Current Picture
- * ASB - Crime and Policing Act
- * Civil Injunction
- * Criminal Behaviour Order
- * Dispersal Power
- * Public Spaces Protection Order
- * Closure Power
- * Community Protection Notice
- * Process and Penalties
- * Impact
- * Community Trigger

Members were given the opportunity to ask questions and make comment on the presentation.

AGREED that the presentation be received.

17 Update on current VEMT arrangements

Members were given a presentation on Vulnerable, Exploited, Missing and Trafficked (VEMT) Children and Young People.

The presentation covered the following key areas:-

- * National Context
- * Tees Strategic VEMT Group
- * SLSCB VEMT Sub Group
- * VEMT Practitioners' Group
- * Operational Update

Members were given the opportunity to ask questions and make comment on the presentation. The issues that were raised could be summarised as follows:-

- * Lessons learned from Middlesbrough Council Review
- * Cultural issues
- * None blinkered approach to perpetrators of VEMT
- * Use of social media with regard to VEMT
- * Some victims of VEMT don't know they are potential victims
- * VEMT information is shared with other Tees Valley authorities

* Schools are trying to incorporate issues around VEMT into the school curriculum

Members felt that they would like to receive further updates on VEMT every 12 months or earlier if any serious issues arise.

AGREED that the update be noted.

18 Stockton Strategic Partnership Review/Visual Minutes

Consideration was given to a report on a proposal to showcase to the Stockton Strategic Partnership some of the key achievements of the Safer Stockton Partnership at an event on 9th December 2014. The event would focus on two of the key priorities for the Strategic Partnership which were to ensure that every child had the best start in life, and maximising family income. This provided an excellent opportunity to highlight some of the successes and challenges for SSP moving forward. The report contained information that would be taken along to pre-meeting on 13th November 2014 where visual minutes would be produced that would be developed into a visual aid for the 9th December 2014 in the form of a pull up banner or canvas. An example of visual minutes was attached to the report.

AGREED that:-

1. The content of the visual minutes be approved.
2. If Members wish they can attend the event on 9th December 2014.

19 Transforming Rehabilitation Strategy update

Members were informed that ARCC ('Achieving Real Change for Communities') had been chosen as the preferred bidder. They would now be putting mobilisation in place as they have approval from the MoJ.

It was agreed that there would be a presentation on the subject at the next meeting of the Partnership.

AGREED that the update be noted.

20 Stockton Town Centre update

Members felt that this issue had been covered in previous items.

21 Reports Back: a) Local Strategic Partnership b) Adult Wellbeing Partnership

There were no reports back.

22 Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 16 December 2014 at 9.30 am

The date of the next meeting was agreed as Tuesday, 16th December 2014.