

## **SEFTON SAFER COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP**

### **REMOTE MEETING THURSDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2020**

PRESENT: Councillor Hardy (in the Chair)  
Councillor John Sayers,  
Helen Armitage, Paul Cheesman, Jenny Currie,  
Tracey Forshaw, Neil Frackelton, Martin Gay,  
Tony Harland, Sue Holden, Victoria Hywel-Davies,  
Stephen Martlew, Janette Maxwell, Michael  
O'Malley, A. Peet, Superintendent Graeme Robson,  
Karen Rooney, Rosanna Stanley, Kevin Sexton,  
Chris White and Tanya Willcock

#### **13. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was submitted from Nicola Horn.

#### **14. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of any disclosable pecuniary interests or personal interests were received.

#### **15. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Chair reported that the Minute book would be signed at a future meeting.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 18 June 2020 be confirmed as a correct record.

#### **16. DOMESTIC HOMICIDE REVIEW 8 'CHARLES'**

Paul Cheesman (Chair of the Domestic Homicide Review Panel) presented a report dealing with a Domestic Homicide Review following an incident in March 2019.

The report set out the following recommendations:-

1. Sefton Safer Communities Partnership reviews the progress and impact of recommendations within previous DHRs where there are similarities between the learning in those reviews and the death of Charles. This should include consideration of the ways in which those recommendations may be enhanced. Particular attention should be paid to:

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- a) Professionals recognising when the serious nature of a crime committed or suspected means it should be reported to the police immediately.
  - b) Professionals recognition of domestic abuse and that it does not always present in the context of an intimate relationship between a male and a female and what to do when it is identified.
  - c) The impact and response to the exposure of children to domestic abuse and what might happen when they reach adulthood. Increasing family and 'bystander' knowledge of domestic abuse and what they should do with such information for example the promotion of a green cross code.
2. Sefton Safer Communities Partnership ensures the links between domestic abuse and debt is recognised by professionals in agencies when delivering services to those residents they suspect may be facing issues in relation to debt.
  3. Sefton Safer Communities Partnership reviews the need for, and availability of services to male victims of domestic abuse.
  4. Sefton Adult Social Care provides regular progress reports to Sefton Safer Communities Partnership on its work to improve the links between safeguarding adults and domestic abuse.
  5. Sefton Safer Communities Partnership consider ways in which the learning from this review can be shared with professionals in partner agencies, for example through a learning event or a briefing document.
  6. All agencies that have contributed to this review report on their progress with implementing their action plans to Sefton Safer Communities Partnership

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the findings of the review be noted;
- (2) the report be approved for submission to the Home Office for endorsement; and
- (3) an update be brought to the next meeting of the Partnership regarding the progress of funding for SWACA aimed at dealing with issues of familial abuse.

**17. UPDATE ON SITUATION RE: COVID-19**

Helen Armitage gave a brief update on the overall position in Sefton with regard to COVID-19. There had been a relatively quiet spell since June 2020, however there had been a rise in cases in the previous 10 days. This seemed to be general with no particular hotspots.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

## **18. VRP MARKETING PLAN**

Victoria Hywel-Davies gave a presentation dealing with a campaign “You Know Who” aimed at giving assistance to vulnerable people who could be targeted and intimidated by gangs. The scheme would be implemented initially in the Seaforth, Bootle and Netherton areas and if successful it was envisaged it could be rolled out across the whole of Merseyside.

Arising from the discussion it was suggested that as many young people in these areas would attend schools in other areas it would be useful to make contact with such schools.

Tony Harland offered assistance from the Fire Brigade in the distribution of leaflets and publicity. Sue Holden also advised that CVS could assist in involving local community groups in the project.

Tanya Wilcock suggested that it would be useful to brief Ward members for the areas involved on the proposals.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the presentation be noted and the proposals supported; and
- (2) Ward Councillors for the areas involved be briefed on the proposals.

## **19. DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL ABUSE**

Steven Martlew, Localities Service Manager – North, gave a verbal update on domestic and sexual abuse, providing an overview of incidents and activity undertaken to combat issues since June 2020, and highlighted the following:

- A campaign to encourage the reporting of domestic violence “#you are not powerless”;
- The domestic abuse bill had had its first reading in the House of Lords;
- A Domestic Abuse Commissioner had been appointed by the Government;
- Some Monies had been made available by the Government for Perpetrator Programmes and the establishment of a pan-Merseyside programme was currently being investigated;
- The steering group to consider issues had last met on 9 September 2020.

RESOLVED: That the update on domestic and sexual abuse be noted

## **20. REFUGEE AND ASYLUM SEEKERS**

Steven Martlew, Localities Service Manager – North, gave a verbal update on refugee and asylum seekers and highlighted the following:

- Issues with cessation notices;
- The use of the Scarisbrick Hotel, Southport, for asylum seekers; and
- Issues with racism.

RESOLVED:

That the update on refugees and asylum seekers be noted.

## **21. LOCAL POLICING UPDATE**

Superintendent Graeme Robson, Merseyside Police, gave a verbal update and highlighted issues during lockdown and trends as lockdown eases, including the following:

- 2 recent incidents of firearms discharge;
- Burglaries;
- Hate Crime;
- Serious violence and gang crime was showing a reduction;
- Traffic management and parking issues on the Sefton coast were now declining;
- Illegal rave parties and associated issues were declining;
- Operation Uplift; and
- County Lines which continued to be a challenge.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

## **22. INTEGRATED YOUTH SUPPORT REPORT**

Rosanna Stanley presented a report giving an update on the progress and achievements of the Integrated Youth Service.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

## **23. PREVENT VERBAL UPDATE**

Chris White, Localities Team Manager – South, gave a verbal update on Sefton's PREVENT Strategy and latest Channel Panel Statistic's.

RESOLVED: That the update on PREVENT be noted.

**24. IMPACT OF COVID19 ON ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND  
HATE CRIME**

Chris White, Localities Team Manager - South submitted two briefing reports, one updating the Board on the impact of COVID19 on Sefton Council's Anti-Social behaviour service since the implementation of Lockdown, and one updating the Board on the impact of COVID19 on hate crime in Sefton since the implementation of Lockdown, with particular regard to refugees and asylum seekers and gypsies and travellers. The briefing also covered hate crime issues arising from the Black Lives Matter protests.

RESOLVED: That the briefing reports be noted.

**25. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The Chair commented that it seemed most likely that the next meeting would be held remotely but this could be reviewed nearer the time, as to whether the meeting would be held remotely, or physically with social distancing measures in place.

RESOLVED:

That the next meeting be held on Thursday, 10 December 2020 commencing at 10.00 am.