

CABINET MEMBER'S REPORT		
COUNCILLOR	PORTFOLIO	DATE
Peter Dowd	Cabinet Member Communities	3 March 2011

## Community Safety Partnership (December 2010 - January 2011)

### Community Payback

Deployed weekly across the full Sefton region and managed by Strategy Support Officer. Main headlines for weekly work include:

- General clean up and litter pick of canal at rear of Satinwood Crescent (Melling)
- Dog Fouling removal and litter pick at Kingsway Park as part of Kite Mark exercise
- Graffiti removal at various parts of Southport town centre.

Work by the service has seen removal of over 130 bags of dog fouling and litter, 3.29 tonnes of fly tipping and undertaken 454 hours of unpaid work.

Year to date figures, across all areas of Sefton, shows Merseyside Probation's Community Payback team have worked 11,614 unpaid hours, removed 3,481 bags of litter and dog fouling and 109 tonnes of fly tipping.

### Drug Action Team

In 2009 Sefton DAT was awarded national pilot status under the Government's Drug System Change Programme. The objective of the programme is to develop new ways of delivering drug treatment in order to achieve improved outcomes for drug users, their families and local communities. The Essence of the Sefton pilot is whole system change and to offer the lessons we learned to all other DAT partnerships across the country. The pilot will officially end in March 2011 and the DAT is about to commence an internal self-evaluation of the changes we have made to the drug treatment system in Sefton. External evaluation is also being undertaken by the National Treatment Agency. As part of the evaluation process and because Sefton DAT is committed to 'share the learning', we will, over the next few months, play host to a several senior officials from the NTA, Home Office, Department of Work and Pensions etc.

The Coalition Government published its new 5 year drug strategy and the new clinical guidance to accompany the strategy remains outstanding. The third piece in the jig-saw is the budget settlement via the National Treatment Agency, and this too remains in abeyance. When the DAT is in possession of all three pieces of the jig saw it will be possible to review all existing services and plan recovery based services for the period up to 2014.

### Anti Social Behaviour Unit

The Government has announced that 8 national Police Forces (not including Merseyside) are undertaking a seven month pilot project designed to respond quickly to ASB by early identification of victims and responding to their needs.

The pilot project will focus on creating an effective call-handling system, better and quicker identification of the most vulnerable victims and improvement of information sharing and working between Police, ASBU and agencies in Social Services. This is the system which has been used, very successfully, for

sometime in Sefton. A good example of this is that the ASBU SPOC officer contacted one victim in Maghull on Christmas Eve who confirmed that due to adverse weather she was unable to leave her home. ASBU officer therefore arranged for local Police to attend her and to take her provisions, which she needed.

Other actions undertaken by the team include:

- Attendance at a meeting to discuss latest ASBO target in Southport North East neighbourhood with colleagues in One Stop Shop (Cambridge Walks). Undertook education on the "Lets Stop ASB campaign" which included speaking to a number of local residents and distributed over 60 publicity bags.
- Visit to Southport to help colleagues from MFRS with distributing letterbox fire bag and take details of possible threats.
- Continuing to work with several high risk victims across the whole of Sefton (Netherton, Crosby, Southport) including case review meetings at the three Police Stations at Copy Lane, Southport, Formby, Bootle and Crosby
- Continuing to oversee Gang Related Violence Injunctions and investigations, and team has attended Domestic Violence MARAC, Youth Crime Justice Group, ASB Governance Group (multi agency), serious acquisitive crime meetings and CSAP meetings.
- Identified offenders for ASB at Formby Pool, attended 6 ABC appointments, submitted 7 gang injunction files to Legal Services at Merseyside Police, and updated a CRASBO for nominal who has been kept in custody and processed a further CRASBO application at the request of Southport North East N/Hood.
- Chaired NAG in Southport, engaged with Police colleagues about re-starting Police Quad Bikes, and various members of the team acted as a Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for 2 vulnerable victims
- Attended Restorative Justice training Effective Management Training (with Merseyside Police), Coaching Facilitators session, supported Student on work experience, met with Contact Centre staff to review new referral process on ASB cases and managed initial new referrals received from Contact Centre.
- Reviewed and gathered evidence for ASBO application Crosby area
- All officers engaged in case management, updating records and reviewing cases where officers must evidence decision, rationale, actions and outcomes for each case so as to create an auditable investigation record

Present caseload – 142 live cases and supporting 11 Vulnerable Victims

---

## **Media / Marketing / Communications**

---

Early signs show a successful "Christmas Presence" campaign in terms of advertising with articles published in the Midweek Visiter, Formby Times, Bootle Times and Maghull & Aintree Star. A formal analysis of the whole campaign is to be held in early February.

Referrals continue to be received following the "Lets Stop Anti Social Behaviour" campaign launch in 2010, and all referrals are actively being pursued by ASBU team.

Attended a session at Birkdale High School to observe some work with the Year 9 pupils on cyberbullying and Hate Crime. Representatives from the police's SIGMA unit and BullyBusters gave presentations to the students and the day included a visit from Gee Walker from the Anthony Walker Foundation and Liverpool & Everton Football clubs.

Commenced work with Drug Action Team to research and plan a campaign to challenge the perceptions residents have of drug users, as well as reassure and inform them of the treatment services and recovery rates. Focus groups have taken place in Bootle and Southport Town Halls with residents from specific geographical locations and/or specific age categories so that we can gather the views of a cross-section of the community.

Attendance at photo shoots with some of the Best Bar None winners to present their plaques and trophies. Two further days of photo shoots have been arranged for future weeks.

Attended at the Marion Square shopping area where the Let's Stop Anti-Social Behaviour Together Advan was parked up, working with PCSOs and the SSO handing out goody bags and information on how to report anti-social behaviour.

The latest edition of "Snapshot" was completed and published on 31st January.

---

## **Civil Contingencies**

---

Following an oil spill in Liverpool, Civil Contingencies team attended twice daily meetings and updated the Senior Leadership team and, separately, attended Civil Contingencies Enhancement Programme briefing in Liverpool.

The team also took part in a mass fatality exercise in Preston and continued further work on the current "Whiston bid" (a Home Office bid to make Whiston Hospital the epicentre of mass fatalities policy) as well as reviewing the financial contributions for Sefton to Merseyside Local Authority Contingency Planning and local Resilience Forum functions.

Assisted St Jerome's Primary School with their emergency plans (re: school trips), and liaised with The Triad (HMRC) (re: evacuation plans). Attended Grand National Emergency Planning meeting and the "Winter Pressures" meeting, taking actions to produce an addendum to the Severe Weather plans.

Liaised with Communications Department regarding message outputs and Community Resilience regarding temporary mortuaries, as well as Merseyside Police regarding Sefton Resilience Action Group 2011 plan. Chaired Mass Fatalities Local Authorities meeting

Reviewed Mass Fatalities Activation Document (which differs from plan) and delivered a Business Continuity presentation at Formby Golf Club (21st January). Reviewed Sefton's proposed changes to Emergency Preparedness, following Cabinet Office advice and met with Environmental Protection Department to discuss their revised Departmental Emergency Plan.

Reviewed the revised River Mersey Aircraft Rescue Plan and Sefton's Corporate Risk Register 2011. Researched and engaged with colleagues on issues raised on Climate Change and worked on aims and objectives for Coroners Mass Fatalities meeting.

Reviewed Lancashire's mass fatality plan and produced paper on the Strategic Lead officers group for Senior Management Team.

Liaised with CTSA regarding counter terrorism training and significant events on 2011 calendar, and reviewed objectives for Sefton's Resilience Action Group.

---

## **Strategy Support Officers / Community Safety Area Partnerships**

---

Major headlines for work of Strategy Support Officers and Community Safety Area Partnerships:

- Six month reviews completed for each CSAP area, with positive results in each area on the different priorities and agreement of the "Winter Priorities".
- Chaired monthly CSAP meetings for January, and undertook actions agreed by the Partnerships
- Undertook visit to Netherton resident, who suffered fire to back fence, abutting Abbeyfield Park and arranged appropriate reparation work.
- Held meeting with local youth provider to discuss opportunities of promoting innovative school programme in Bootle and Southport.
- Received and reviewed artwork for Sefton specific Hate Crime Booklet, and then took to publication.

- Commenced planning a zoning exercise on Rimrose Valley Park to aid Police recording methods and possibly for the wider community purposes.
  - Commenced discussions with British Transport Police, to agree a protocol on the sharing of relevant information for the CSAP partnerships (in conjunction with AIM Team) and to strengthen the linkages between the CSAP process and representatives of BTP.
  - Attended a Counter Terrorism local profile Multi Agency Action Plan Meeting in which various objectives were looked at for Sefton's profile; the Group will meet again in February after relevant information has been collated seeking to complete a plan later in 2011.
  - Attended an Acquisitive Crime Partnership working group looking at sharing of best practice.
  - Commenced discussions with Bootle based Youth Club to spread best practice exercise they have undertaken into other areas of Sefton. Discussions will continue into 2011.
- 
- The Christmas Presence Campaign was completed and a full debrief is being organised for early February, however some early headlines from the campaign include 3 arrests and 8 follow up visits on victims of domestic violence, 71 visits made to licensed premises across the area and 1 arrest and two further warnings being issued for the possession of a controlled drug through use of the knife arch.
  - Attended meeting with OVH and partners to support Keep Britain Tidy Kite Mark in Kings Park and arranged for Community Payback to attend the Park prior to the assessment.
  - Attended Kings Gardens (Southport) steering group to offer expertise on designing out crime in proposed play areas.
  - Fence repaired in Crossens Park, Southport following site survey and family visited with ASBU following up.
  - Attended Pan Merseyside Hate Crime meeting to share best practice and identify ways of working together making a more co-ordinated response to the crime with shrinking resources.
  - Meeting with Independent Initiative regarding appropriate reporting methods for clients (drug rehabilitation).
  - Site visit to Gordon Avenue, Maghull to look at perceived ASB issues and followed up possible solutions with Police and other Partners.

---

## **Performance**

---

Percentage of people from different backgrounds who get on well together increased by 5.3% on previous year and percentage of people who feel they can influence decisions affecting their neighbourhood increased by 7.8% on last year – based on latest results of area survey.

Latest performance shows all ASB for December 2010 down 7% on December 2009, Rowdy/Inconsiderate Behaviour for December 2010 down 5.6% on December 2009 and Domestic Burglary for December 2010 up 12% compared to December 2009

Most Serious Violence YTD (to end of December) reduced by 22% compared to same period last year & 13% below target. Racially/Religiously Aggravated Crime YTD (to end of December) reduced by 6.5% compared to same period last year. Serious Acquisitive Crime YTD (to end of December) reduced by 6.4% compared to same period last year & 10% below target. Burglary Dwelling offences YTD (to end of December) increased by 12.5% compared to same period last year & 3% above target

## **SAFER, STRONGER COMMUNITIES (week commencing 31 January 2011)**

### **National Picture**

**Gang Injunctions** – Launched on 31<sup>st</sup> January, Gang injunctions are designed to break down gang culture by imposing prohibitions and requirements. These could include being barred from entering a certain geographical area, being in public with a particular species of animal (for example a dog which had previously been used as a weapon) and wearing certain 'gang colours' in public. Individuals will also be required to participate in positive activities such as being mentored. The powers apply in England and Wales only. (source – Home Office website)

**Crime Mapping** – Launched on 1<sup>st</sup> February, Home Office launched a street level online "crime mapping system" for England and Wales, which "...allows users to see which offences have been reported in their local streets." It is based on the national crime figures and information on six categories can be searched - burglary, robbery, vehicle crime, violence, other crime and anti-social behaviour. (Sex crimes have been included in the "other" category, along with crimes such as theft and shoplifting, to help prevent victims from being identified). The government believe the site is an important part of its "transparency agenda", making the data available in an open format so that communities could use it to "help people engage with the police in a meaningful way". (source – Home Office website).

## **Sefton Work**

**Community Payback** – Working last week across Sefton throughout the different Area Committee Areas (primarily in SONO), Merseyside Probation's Community Payback team undertook tasks that had been highlighted by Park Rangers in Marion Gardens (SONO) - assisting ground maintenance team by removing glass embedded in ground near to seating area, Moorhey Road (dog fouling stencils) and various locations with Litherland and Ford, following recommendations from Cllr Kelly's walkabouts.

**Strategy Support Officer/Community Safety Area Partnerships** – Meeting with Independent Initiative and Police to facilitate the reporting of incidents from their Vulnerable Clients to assist with their drug use rehabilitation. Attended Serious Acquisitive Crime Meeting, and met with Sefton MBC's Coast & Countryside and Police to look at data transfer and zoning of the Rimrose Valley Park. Site visits to two particular properties of vulnerable clients with MFRS where repeat victimisation is occurring (SONO). Site to Gordon Avenue (Maghull) to work with Police and residents experiencing youth related ASB. Met with Brunswick Youth Club on Outreach work from the Centre and met with North Park Steering Group on master planning for 106 monies in the park. Supported the award of Green Flag Status in Kings Park, Crosby, and facilitated the inaugural meeting of Operation Beachsafe for 2011. Finalised the draft review of Section 17 on behalf of the Local Authority and completed decommissioning exercise for service. Attended the Christmas Presence Campaign wash up meeting; full results of which will be included in next week's update report.

**ASBU** – Following work by Sefton's Arson Reduction Officer, a 22-year-old male was given a three year suspended sentence and ordered to carry out 100 hours of unpaid work in the community, after being found guilty at South Sefton Magistrates Court charged with arson and making malicious phone calls to the fire service and police. The individual pleaded guilty to four charges of making calls last year and he also pleaded guilty to setting fire to two wheelie bins of a neighbour's in November. Elsewhere, the team have been gathering and finalising files for ASBO on a B1 nominal (significant amount of work within one ASBO application for a standard suitable for legal submission) and updating all live files on HUB system. They attended meetings on Beachsafe, Serious Acquisitive Crime Group, with Formby residents (with Ch Supt Pilling), and Police colleagues on local ASB issues across all police areas. The team continues to develop a Gang Injunction protocol, and reviewed feasibility for a RIPA (Regulatory Investigatory Powers Act) covert surveillance application. Continued to gather evidence for further Southport nominal for possible ASBO application and reviewed missing from home/ASB legislation regarding ongoing issues at private care homes for young people.

Liaised with OVH regarding high risk victims and with numerous contacts and visits with victims, across the Borough some of which are high risk. This is primarily completed by ASB Victims champion as well as investigating officers and PCSO's. All support visits documented. They also attended a meeting with Seftons Women and Children's Association (SWACA) on a Vulnerable Victim case.

**Civil Contingencies** – Attended Merseyside Local Authority Contingency Planning Group meetings to discuss SLA's across Merseyside, and reviewed Aintree Racecourse activation with CTLP officers. Reviewed Mass Fatality Options document in meeting with Working Group, and reviewed National Emergency Mortuary Sites (NEMA) sites in line with new assessments and criteria. Continued dealing with feedback from the Business Continuity Conference presentation, and prepared for meetings to discuss Business Continuity and emergency planning arrangements with Strand Shopping Centre Management. Arranging meetings to discuss "Business Continuity Awareness Week" and the potential launch of a Sefton Business Resilience Forum and updated Sefton's Emergency Planning risks in line with Cabinet Office Risk guidance documents and Merseyside Community Risk Register.



**Communications** – The first 2011 edition of Snapshot has been sent to colleagues and partners and will be added to Sefton Council's Intranet shortly. Visits have been made to more of the licensed premises who were mentioned in Best Bar None Campaign, where awards were presented, photographs taken and quotes obtained. When all the venues have been visited (after 8 February) further co-ordinated media coverage will be undertaken and information added to Safer Communities website – [www.respectsefton.co.uk](http://www.respectsefton.co.uk). Editing work and preparation of the CSAP end of year review document continues with SSOs.

## Performance –

Category	Jan-10	Jan-11	Change	Percentage Change	Direction of Travel
Abandoned Vehicles	52	26	-26	-50.0	▼
Animal Problems	35	36	1	2.9	▲
Begging/Vagrancy	1	7	6	600.0	▲
Hoax call to emergency services	18	26	8	44.4	▲
Inappropriate use/sale/possession of fireworks	3	3	0	0.0	▶
Malicious communications	58	66	8	13.8	▲
Noise	33	16	-17	-51.5	▼
Environmental Damage / Littering	2	2	0	0.0	▶
Nuisance Neighbours	89	126	37	41.6	▲
Rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour	549	409	-140	-25.5	▼
Street Drinking	0	5	5	N/A	▲
Trespass	2	3	1	50.0	▲
Vehicle Nuisance / Inappropriate Vehicle Use	61	55	-6	-9.8	▼
All ASB	903	780	-123	-13.6	▼

Overall ASB has reduced by 13.6% for January 2011 compared to the same month last year with 6 of the 7 ACA's across the borough having reductions in the level of ASB. Southport is the only ACA to suffer a rise with ASB UP 10% on last year. The rise in Southport is largely due to a 58% (41 from 26) rise in Nuisance Neighbour calls and a 75% (14 from 8) rise in Vehicle Nuisance. The biggest concern for ASB is Nuisance neighbour calls for service which rose in 6 of the 7 ACA's (only Formby had a reduction in calls). Worst affected areas were SEP with a rise of 133% (6 to 14) and Linacre/Derby up 77% (13 to 23). Most pleasing is the 25.5% reduction in Rowdy/inconsiderate behaviour, which is good proxy indicator for YCA. No ACA had an increase in calls for service and 6 had reductions in calls, Crosby remained unchanged. Biggest reductions were achieved in Formby down 60% (40 to 16) and SONO down 49% (90 to 46). Also pleasing was that Animal Related problems remained fairly static, having been identified as becoming a major issue and concern. With significant rises over recent months meaning it was adopted as a CSAP priority by some areas

## NEIGHBOURHOODS

Participatory Budget (PB) in Manor and Church is progressing well.

### Manor Ward

- Landscaping to the green on Whitemeadow Drive and planting along Williams Way, has been completed.
- Saturday skips are still being provided and will carry on until the end of the financial year.

### Church Ward

- Intergenerational Youth Project has carried out a gardening project in the Seaforth part of Church and young people have distributed hanging baskets that they made to residents in Dewlands Road. Some young people dropped out of the scheme and the funding has been directed to working with siblings who have been identified by Youth Service as a group who would benefit from some one to one work. The remaining young people will have recently attended a residential outward bound centre.
- A Project to paint mural on the side of Cocoa Sheds located at Seaforth Docks has is underway. Costings for scaffolding and materials are being sought and we a new steering group has been formed involving local residents and the artists.

- A Dog Fouling Project has been carried out in Church ward which included extra enforcement action and awareness raising activities being carried out. Environmental enforcement have reported back to the Church Ward Forum about the success of the project.

### **Business Neighbourhoods Update**

- Business Neighbourhoods looking to expand a Business radio link with traders and businesses across the borough to try and generate an income for Sefton Council. Targeting vulnerable businesses.
- Improving vacant premises on Stanley Road using Step Clever programme. Delivering the message that HMRI will not be developing the commercial properties in the foreseeable future as part of the Bedford/Queen programme.
- Putting a schedule in place to deliver improvements to derelict and semi-vacant properties in Linacre Bridge area. Work to commence when weather improves.

### **Area Management Update**

- Area Committee meetings continue to be managed and supported by Neighbourhood Area Coordinators as do the Parish Council meetings.
- Working with senior officers and Elected Members on the Localism Bill and the consideration of the implications for Sefton is on-going.
- Consultation on Area Partnerships continues with discussions with all political parties and key partner agencies (recent presentation and discussion with Health and Social Care Forum).
- Neighbourhoods continue to support Parish's in the development of Parish Plans. Neighbourhoods have offered to provide guidance, support and officer time to applying to take part on the Neighbourhood Planning Vanguard Scheme. This is a new pilot scheme managed through central government to enable neighbourhoods and parish councils to have more of a say in planning processes.
- Elected Member engagement and support continues to be provided in terms of coordinating services in responding to the needs of residents/Elected Members
- A rolling programme of presentations with senior officers across the Council continues with regards to the agreed changes to Area Committee processes. This process has been slowed by the amount of senior officer time being dedicated to budgetary concerns.
- Support continues to be provided to a large number of residents groups (significant examples include organised walkabouts across the borough, installation of slide at Ollery Green park play area, coordination of dog fouling stencilling and fine stickers etc).
- Meeting held on the development of Area Committee Action Plans.
- Meeting held with Corporate Performance teams with regards to Area Profiles and data to help inform Area Committee Action Plans.

### **Section 106**

- Consultation has taken place with area committees to discuss the current process and to look at ways of changing the process to meet neighbourhood need.
- The consensus from the consultation exercise was that any Section 106 not allocated should be used in line with Neighbourhood need (within the requirements of the Section 106 agreement) and that the funding sits with the Neighbourhoods Division to enable the resource to be targets in line with area need/ area plans.
- Further discussions with Planning have taken place and it has been agreed that whilst current section 106 agreements cannot be changed there is flexibility on what the funding can be used on. The current agreement stipulates spend on Greenspace and or trees, however, agreement has been reached that funding can be spent on things such as home zoning (as long as it included landscaping), Multi Use Games Areas etc.
- A member briefing note is being prepared regarding the consultation with member over the current Section 106 process, with a proposed, new, process incorporating issues raised and the consultations, the emerging Area Management structure and changes to the planning process via the Localism Bill. It is hoped that the briefing will take place during February 2011.

## Tesco Section 106

- Unlike the majority of Section 106 agreements the Tesco agreement states that the funding should be used for employment and strengthening the local economy.
- Agreement was reached that the part of the Section 106 funding would be used in the Linacre Bridge area of Litherland, which has experienced a number of issues around declining small businesses, anti social behaviour that is making the area more undesirable as a destination of choice for shoppers/service users and business set ups.
- A plan has been compiled in order to address these needs which are currently being implemented.
- Part of the plan is for an Area Management Officer to be located in the Linacre Bridge Area 2 -2.5 days per week and to explore ways that an existing Neighbourhood Office (currently run by LHT) can remain open and for its remit to expand to include other service providers such as other Registered Social Landlords such as One Vision and Riverside along with the police, PCT etc.
- Tesco Section106 will fund the Area Management Officer costs and running costs for the Neighbourhood Office. It is proposed that the project will begin March/April 2011.
- Violet Road is an area that has experienced many problems with anti-social behaviour. Over the years a number of initiatives have taken place to address the issues including two Section 30 orders, however, this has only provided temporary respite. Elected members and the local community identified the need to find a permanent solution to this issue.
- A proposal to block off congregation points and open up Violet Road into Hornby Boulevard, carry out environmental improvements and open up access to Hapsford Park by cutting back shrubs and increasing lighting has been worked up. OVH are also involved and will be concentrating on Hornby Flats and closing off Longfield Park.
- However, before going to final plans its has been agreed that consultation will take place on the above concept in order to gauge public opinion about the proposals, as Violet Road was originally closed off due to an accident that resulted in a fatality.
- We plan to consult with the local community on March 10 2011 about the plans. The consultation will take place for 1 evening and will have representatives from OVH, Halsall Lloyd (Architects for OVH), Neighbourhoods and Highways to take any questions from the public.
- The consultation and engagement panel have agreed to the consultation taking place.
- In order to address the issues around anti social behaviour and its link to the economic decline of the area the plan also included providing additional resource for the police. It is hoped that eventually we will be able to purchase 4 quad bikes for the area that will enable the police to respond to issues quickly and access areas that a car cannot reach. However, there is an ongoing investigation into the use of quad bike by Merseyside Police, and none can be purchased until the investigation has ended. In the interim two mountain bikes have been purchased, with section 106 funding the cost of the bikes and equipment and Merseyside police meeting the costs of the training and ongoing maintenance.
- A family project is also planned and will compliment existing projects such as Think Family, Health Inequalities Initiative, Stronger Communities and the Total Neighbourhoods Pilots.

## EQUALITIES

Public sector equality duties will come in to force April 6<sup>th</sup>. This will place new general duties on all public bodies. These will be accompanied by specific duties instructing public bodies to publish equality data by July 12 2011, in preparation for developing and publishing 'Equality Objectives' by April 2012.

An Equality data report is the profile of service users by protected characteristics. Where there, are gaps in data, a period of 12 months is allowed to obtain the information. The data will feed in to the Equality Objectives report' – this report is a statement of what equality actions need to take place and how they will be achieved. This will be made available to the public for scrutiny. In order to meet the July 12 deadline, activity to organise and collate data needs to start now.