

SEFTON SAFER COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP

**MEETING HELD AT THE COMMITTEE ROOM 1, TOWN HALL,
BOOTLE
ON THURSDAY 14TH JUNE, 2012**

PRESENT: Councillor Hardy (in the Chair)
Dympna Edwards, Neil Frackleton, Paul Holt,
Mike Homfray, Christina Jones, Mark McCausland,
Greta Morphet, Lesley Paterson, Steph Prewett,
Rob Pritchard and
Chief Superintendent Nicola Holland

11. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Kerrigan, Mark Ashton, Graham Bayliss, Sandra Davies, Jacqui Kerr and Paula Simm.

12. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED:

That subject to Mr. Mark McCausland being included in the list of those being present and Mr. Mike Homfray being included in the list of those who submitted their apologies, the Minutes of the meeting held on 23 May 2012 be confirmed as a correct record.

13. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Steph Prewett, Head of Commissioning and Neighbourhood Co-ordination advised that further to Minute No. 9 (Sefton Hate Crime Group), no offers of financial assistance had been offered from Partners.

RESOLVED:

That Steph Prewett be requested to write to all Partners advising that the Partnership was no longer a member of the Stop Hate Crime UK Helpline.

14. TERMS OF REFERENCE REVIEW AND REVIEW OF MEMBERSHIP

The Partnership considered a briefing paper that reviewed both the terms of reference of the Safer and Stronger Communities Thematic Partnership (SSCTP) and its membership.

The briefing paper indicated that the Home Office had reviewed various Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRP's) and recognised that many were balancing various operational and strategic responsibilities within the same management framework; that in its review, the Home

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Office recommended that CDRP's should, in future, 'split' their operational and strategic accountability, the former remaining with the CDRP, with the latter moving to the SSCTP under the umbrella of the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP); and that if the SSCTP incorporated the strategic decision-making of the CDRP, then it would have to retain a core of partner agencies that had been defined by statute.

However as the role of the SSCTP extended beyond that of the CDRP, its membership would also need to reflect those key agencies and partners who would have the lead responsibility for delivering the mandatory outcomes of the Safer and Stronger Communities Block of the Local Area Agreement (LAA). The membership of the SSCTP also needed to recognise the added value of providing sufficient representation from the Community and Voluntary Sector, especially as this new thematic partnership would incorporate the work previously aligned with the 'Liveability' and 'Voluntary and Community Development' Thematic Partnerships. As such it was proposed that the SSCTP would accommodate two representatives from the Community Empowerment Network, one representative from the Community and Voluntary Sector and one Resident representative.

The briefing paper concluded that from the guidance published by the Home Office and the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister it was evident that the strategic and operational functions of the CDRP should be realigned; and recommended that the strategic function of the CDRP become embedded within the new SSCTP and that the 'partnership' incorporated all the statutory responsibility associated with the CDRP but also extended its remit to take on the additional responsibility associated with the delivery and performance management of the Safer and Stronger Communities Block of the LAA, whilst recognising that the overall governance of the LAA rested with the LSP.

At the meeting, Chris Jones, Service Manager – Corporate Commissioning, circulated an updated draft terms of reference (DToR), the purpose of which was to provide the strategic lead for community safety in Sefton.

The DToR detailed 8 responsibilities of the Partnership.

Following discussion by Partners, it was agreed that included within the responsibilities should be reference to the Partnership being the governing body for Domestic Homicide Reviews; and offering responses to the PCT as requested.

The DToR also set out the membership of the Partnership and identified that the Chair would be elected annually; the 6 statutory Partners; other relevant bodies who could be co-opted onto the Partnership; the decision making process; and the quorum arrangements.

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Following discussion by Partners, it was agreed that, bearing in mind that Domestic Violence was a standing agenda item, an expert in this field could be a co-opted member.

It was also noted that the role of the PCT representative may have to be reviewed in 6/9 months time.

With regard to the meeting arrangements, the DToR detailed the frequency of meetings; the formation of Task and Finish Groups; agenda management; and that there would be standing agenda items on the following:

- Prevent
- Domestic Violence
- Anti Social Behaviour
- Integrated Offender Management
- Opportunities and Challenges facing each Responsible Authority
- Youth Offending Service

Following discussion by Partners, it was agreed that Hate Crime should be a standing agenda item; and that issues associated with the availability of resources from Government should be included in the item relating to "Opportunities and Challenges facing each Responsible Authority".

The 'Delivering Safer Communities' guidance suggested that there should be clear roles and responsibilities within the Strategic Group and these were identified in the DToR under the following headings:-

- Chair Role of the
- Role of the NHS Representative
- Role of the Elected Member with Community Safety responsibility
- Role of the Police Representative
- Role of the Police Authority Representative
- Role of the Fire Service Representative
- Role of the Local Authority Representative (Chief Executive or nominated representative)
- Role of the Youth Offending Team Representative
- Role of the Probation Service Representative

Following discussion by Partners, it was agreed that the following be added to the role of the NHS Representative – "impact of community safety issues on health"

Chris Jones advised that the Terms of Reference would be reviewed annually with the next review date being April 2013.

RESOLVED:

That the comments made be incorporated into the draft Terms of Reference and circulated to Partners and thereafter the Terms of Reference be submitted to the next meeting for approval.

15. YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE MANAGEMENT BOARD

The Partnership considered a briefing paper that advised of the implications of transferring the governance and management oversight arrangements for the Youth Offending Service (YOS) to the Sefton Safer Communities Partnership (SSCP).

The briefing paper indicated that the purpose of transferring YOS governance to SSCP was to ensure integrated partnership work was reflected within the Youth Justice Plan and within the area partnership wider strategic priorities; advised of the accountability issues associated with the transfer of the governance and management oversight arrangements; and detailed the functions of the Board together with its membership, the proposed performance reporting and budget and funding reporting.

The briefing paper concluded that in accordance with Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation guidance, the YOS governance needed to provide leadership to effectively steer youth justice delivery; provide an oversight and strategic direction; provide a link across the Criminal Justice arena, the Community Safety Partnership and the Children's Trust; ensure that YOS was compliant with National Standards; and ensure appropriate senior representation reflecting statutory partnerships.

Mark McCausland, Head of Service, Youth Offending Team updated the Partnership on the proposals.

RESOLVED:

That the transferral of the governance and management oversight arrangements for the Youth Offending Service to the Sefton Safer Communities Partnership be approved.

16. INTEGRATED OFFENDER MANAGEMENT

It was agreed that consideration of this matter be deferred until the next meeting.

17. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE REVIEW

Further to Minute No. 8 of the meeting held on 23 May 2012, Steph Prewett, Head of Commissioning and Neighbourhood Co-ordination, updated on the comments and suggestions submitted by Partners for a refresh of the strategic approach to domestic violence and on improvements to the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference

(MARAC); advised that reductions in the Council's budgets would have an impact on domestic violence service provision; and that a decision was awaited by Cabinet on such reduction and that once received, the impact on service provision could be evaluated. Steph Prewett concluded that Cabinet would make a decision in principle about its priorities, followed by a period of consultation and that thereafter, finer details would be produced.

Chief Superintendent Nikki Holland indicated that because Sefton's use of MARAC was high, any reduction would bring Sefton into line with other areas.

RESOLVED:

That the update on the comments and suggestions submitted by Partners for a refresh of the strategic approach to domestic violence and on improvements to the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference be noted.

18. ASB WHITE PAPER: PUTTING VICTIMS FIRST - MORE EFFECTIVE RESPONSES TO ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Chris Jones, Service Manager – Corporate Commissioning, circulated a briefing paper that advised that the Government had recently announced proposed changes in legislation to tackle Anti-Social Behaviour, which included the introduction of new orders to replace the current Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs), and by cutting the number of current orders available from nineteen to six. The Government announced that these new orders would be simpler, quicker and easier to enforce.

Also contained in the proposals was the introduction of a 'community trigger' that would force Police, Local Authorities (Councils) and Agencies (RSLs etc) to act if 5 or more households made a complaint, or if the same person complained 3 times or more about the same issue / incident. This Community Trigger approach was being piloted from 1st June 2012 in Manchester, Brighton and Lincolnshire.

The Anti-Social Behaviour Unit, with partners in the Police, RSLs etc. within Sefton, was already implementing a 'Community Trigger' approach by means of using the repeats data. This repeats data highlighted possible Vulnerable Victims and ensured that they were picked up at the earliest opportunity. The issues raised by the data were then discussed and actioned by the partners at weekly area based meetings at the Area's Police Station. These findings and actions were also discussed at the ASB Governance meetings on a Monthly basis.

Chris Jones then indicated that the following 'people' orders were to be scrapped

Criminal Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (CrASBOs)
Criminal Drink Banning Orders (Cr DBOs)
Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBO's)

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Drink Banning Orders (DBOs)
Anti-Social Behaviour Injunctions (ASBIs)
Individual Support Orders (ISOs)
Intervention Orders (IOs)

and replaced with the following

Criminal Behaviour Order (CBOs)
Crime Prevention Injunction (CPI's)

that the following 'Places / Public Space' orders were to be scrapped

Litter Cleaning Notice
Street Litter Cleaning Notice
Graffiti Defacement removal Notice
Designated Public Place Order
Gating Order
Dog Control Order
Premises Closure Order
Crack House Closure Order
Noisy Premises Closure Order
Closure Order

and replaced with the following

Community Protection Order
Community Protection Notice.

And that the following Police Powers were to be scrapped

Section. 30 Dispersal Orders
Section 27 Direction to Leave Orders.

and replaced with the following

Directions Power

At present, for the Police to apply for a Section 30 Dispersal Order or a Section 27 Direction to Leave Order, they have to prove consultation with the Chief Executive of the Local Authority and its Anti-Social Behaviour Unit.

The new Directions Power will consolidate existing police Powers dispersal powers into a single, less bureaucratic power, meaning Police can quickly deal with emerging issues in a particular area.

Steph Prewett, Head of Commissioning and Neighbourhood Co-ordination, indicated that the ASB Unit currently comprised of 9 staff (2 Council officers, 2 VCF staff, 4 Police and 1 Arson Reduction Officer) and that the resource implications of the Unit were being reviewed.

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Chris Jones concluded by urging Partners to look at the details of the Government White Paper; and sought views on the setting up of a Task and Finish Group to consider the proposals arising from the White Paper.

RESOLVED:

That the establishment of a Task and Finish Group to review the organisations with responsibility for delivering anti social behaviour services be approved.

19. HEADLINE SEFTON SAFER COMMUNITIES PRIORITIES

Chris Jones, Service Manager – Corporate Commissioning, made a presentation on the headline priorities for the Sefton Safer Communities Partnership (SSCP) Plan.

Chris Jones highlighted that the priorities fell into the following categories:-

- Anti-social behaviour
- Domestic Violence

It was agreed that the issue of male perpetrators' attitudes towards domestic violence; and the inclusion of MARAC as part of the "Repeat Victims" priority be included in the list of priorities.

- Reducing Crime

It was agreed that the issue of burglary and robbery be included in the list of priorities

- Reducing re-offending
- Hate Crime

Partners acknowledged the fact that there was a huge problem of under reporting of hate crimes and therefore, it was difficult to determine the level of the problem

- Substance and Alcohol Abuse

It was acknowledged that the issue of substance and alcohol abuse was a big priority for local communities.

RESOLVED:

That the comments made be incorporated into the headline priorities and circulated to Partners and thereafter be submitted to the next meeting for approval.

20. PREVENT

Partners had nothing to report with regard to Prevent at this meeting.

21. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

RESOLVED:

That an indicative programme of agenda items for consideration at future meetings be submitted to the next meeting of the Partnership.

22. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the next meeting be held on **Thursday, 19 July, 2012 at Southport Town Hall, commencing at 11.30 a.m.**