

CABINET MEMBER UPDATE REPORT		
Councillor	Portfolio	Period of Report
Cllr Robertson	Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods	November - December 2011

Corporate Commissioning & Neighbourhood Coordination

Strategic Partnerships

SBP Operations Board

- The Operations Board meets every month. At the last meeting partners discussed issues on Welfare Reform and the consultation on Sefton MBC budget proposals. Partners have been asked to provide feedback on this.
- Action plan on data sharing in relation to those in receipt of care packages is to be presented to the next meeting in December.

Area Partnerships

- South Sefton Area Partnership - the first Financial Inclusion task and finish group was held on 21 October 2011. Partners included OVH, SMBC Welfare Rights team, Avarto, CAB and Sefton Credit Union. The group has started developing an information pack that provides advice on services available on financial inclusion. They are also looking at ways to increase membership of Credit Union membership and an action plan for illegal money lending in specific localities based on need.
- Sefton East Area Partnership agreed its key priorities at its meeting on 28 November 2011.
- Crosby Area Partnership agreed its key priorities on 23 November 2011. A task and finish group is to be arranged in January to discuss their priority of the redevelopment of Crosby village and the potential proposals coming forward from Sainsbury's following the design workshops held by their lead architect.
- Southport Partnership – meeting with Coordinator of Southport Learning Partnership, an umbrella organisation for 40 schools and head teachers to discuss possible membership on this Area Partnership.

Area Co-ordination

- Area coordination first point of contact - continued liaison with Members, residents, businesses and Parishes. Examples include
 - Litherland Road Canal - litterbins moved closer to canal entrances of Litherland Bridge and Strand Road to provide dog walkers with somewhere to put bags of dog mess and we are looking into placing signs along this stretch of the canal as it is a particular problem. Further work is needed with British Waterways around ongoing maintenance of the Canal, which also affects other parts of the borough.
 - The farmers market in Maghull has been cancelled despite efforts to revive it through transferring the arrangement to a private sector organisation, as there have only been 2 traders in attendance for the most of this year.
 - Discussions have been taking place with the Maghull Group and Maghull Town Council about the long term arrangements for the Christmas lights in Central Square and the potential for the responsibility to be taken on by these partners.

- Ongoing work with partners to try and develop more long term resolution to the issue of travellers camping on Marine Park site in Waterloo.
 - Undertook a site visit to St Joan's school site in Bootle to arrange clear up of the site to help prevent anti social behaviour. Work was undertaken by the owners of the site (Liverpool Archdiocese) and Community Payback - included greater security to the site, trimming back and removing overgrowth, and clearing litter and dog fouling. The site remains clear and Brunswick Youth Club's outreach team, following a request from the CSAP, are presently engaging with the young people
- CSAPs - continued coordination and facilitation of the 7 CSAP meetings and follow up of actions identified.
 - Area Committees – continued support for Area Committees, managing the budgets, follow up on actions and responses to resident questions.
 - We continue to deliver the Stepclever programme. The Christmas tree in Seaforth village was part funded via Stepclever to support local businesses trying to increase footfall. Working with Transportation department regarding bollards around Stella Precinct - would prevent traffic cutting through a pedestrianised area making it safer for shoppers.
 - Continued town centre management support for Southport and Bootle including business liaison, radio link, business and premises license advice.
 - Continued management of alleygating maintenance and repair programme.
 - Completed work on Bonfire / Mischief Delivery plans which resulted on Mischief Night in a 13% reduction of incidents compared to 2010 figures. (102 incidents compared with 117 incidents), with reductions being seen in some of the main traditional hot spot areas (including Linacre, Derby, Blundellsands, Victoria, Litherland and Netherton/Orrrell). There was a response to over 60 calls for service on removal of unofficial bonfire materials, reclaiming an estimated 60 tonnes of detritus and combustible materials. This was an additional service provided by Sefton's Cleansing team thanks to additional resources being secured from the Area Committee budgets. An outcomes report will be sent to all Area Committees in the near future.
 - Christmas trees - all 12 sites went ahead as additional funding was secured from a number of partners –including the Area Committees, Stepclever, Parish Councils, and local organisations.
 - Offered advice and support to the Atlantic Corridor Intervention Programme in submitting a funding application for members of the consortium to work in a more cohesive manner on young people's services.
 - Designed and received agreement from local Police on development of a "burglary" Christmas message which will be distributed by local stakeholders of CSAP. In addition in Crosby, several thousand homes will be visited and leafleted in a bid to reduce the number of burglaries in the area.
 - To tackle increase in vehicle nuisance (in Litherland/Ford) every resident in Stanley Gardens area was posted a letter seeking information on perpetrators and this led to the arrest of an individual for these crimes.
 - Development of a Car Crime leaflet for region, which is being adapted in Litherland/Ford area to become a faux "Penalty Notice". These will be attached to windscreens of cars in hot spot locations.

- Facilitated meetings between Planning, private sector landlords, and Light for Life to discuss the issue of Sefton's policy, which prevents landlords turning (houses of multiple occupation (HMO's) into blocks of studio flats. The prevalence of HMO's has many problems concerning tenant's quality of life and there are also child protection issues. This problem has now been rectified following a revision to the policy.
- Working with Housing to be first point of contact regarding empty properties in Southport in the hope of turning them into occupied dwellings.

Anti-Social Behaviour

- The team is presently pursuing an ABC with a local secondary school in the south of the borough.
- Undertook a letter drop regarding Scrambler bikes and vehicle nuisance in an area in south Sefton.
- Supporting numerous Vulnerable Victims, including undertaking visits and risk assessments, and attended a multi-agency meeting offering support for vulnerable offender and associated victims.
- Preparing 5 cases for CRASBO (Borough wide), had two attendances at Court regarding CRASBO applications and attended numerous multi agency planning meetings including ASB Governance

Civil Contingencies

- Attended meeting with community representatives to discuss Community Emergency Planning. Looking to trial in two areas in the New Year after review of template.
- Updating guidance for Elected Members on involvement in emergencies, and reviewing documentation on Supply Chain business continuity.
- Reviewed Highways Welfare planning arrangements for Merseyside, engaged in Strike action planning (with Sefton colleagues and agencies across Merseyside) and secured final agreements with Home Office regarding funding for Resilient Mortuaries and scoped options for cost effective body storage
- Liaised with partners and supported them on site when Ribble Estuary Cockle beds closed at Marshside - assisted in seizing equipment
- Continuing to engage in "Olympic Torch" planning, this will continue up to the event in late Summer 2012.

Other

- VCF review – recommendations are being pulled together from outcomes of consultation so far. Where possible information relating to funding post March 2012 will be sent out to organisations before Christmas.
- Discussions with Countdown to discuss cost free methods of promoting use of the Countdown shopping card, such as use of social media.
- Attended Clicks Conference in Preston which looked at working with offenders, and included perspectives on future commissioning of criminal justice services, workshops on sustainability and strategic planning and updates from 3rd sector led pilots in Manchester and Sefton.

- Undertook 8 Sanctuary visits in Southport and Bootle for high risk victims
- Production of a series of A5 leaflets to highlight specific issues or provide crime prevention advice:
 - Car crime leaflet to raise awareness of the issue of theft from cars.
The initial request was to cover the Formby and Southport areas, however, it is anticipated that the leaflet will be used borough-wide.
 - A bulky items collection leaflet to promote the free Sefton Council service.
The information has also been added to the SSCP website, www.respectsefton.co.uk
 - A festive related burglary leaflet to provide general crime prevention advice to residents .
These have been issued to a number of Neighbourhood Inspectors for them to distribute
- Work also undertaken on a democracy in action press release - which referred to the Sefton Question Time event and two MYPs attending the House of Commons - and this has appeared in the Southport Visiter and Formby Times.