

SAFER HALTON PARTNERSHIP

At a meeting of the Safer Halton Partnership Wednesday, 15 February 2012 Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn

Present	D. Cargill	Police Authority
	S. Eastwood	DAAT, Communities
	D. Houghton	HBC Policy and Partnerships
	D. Johnson	Communities, HBC
	D. Parr	Chief Executive
	C. Frazer	Riverside Housing
	M. Andrews	Community Safety
	A. Jones	Democratic Services
	A. Waller	Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service
	J. Bucknall	Children's Organisation & Provision
	T. Knight	NHI Merseyside
	J. Davidson	Probation Service
	S. Boycott	Cheshire Police

Action

SHP23 WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

David Parr welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made around the table.

SHP24 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Councillor Osborne, Richard Strachan, Collette Walsh, Hazel Coen, Lorraine Crane, Noel Sharpe and Paul McWade.

SHP25 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 15 November 2012 were agreed as a correct record.

SHP26 POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONERS (PCC) AND POLICE & CRIME PANELS

The Partnership was advised that from November 2012, Police Authorities would be replaced by a Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). A Police and Crime Panel would also be established to scrutinise the activities of the PCC. It was noted that the introduction of the PCC and Panel would change the relationship with the Council and the Community Safety Partnerships and other partners involved in crime reduction, crime detection and the criminal justice system.

Appended to the report were Guidance Notes that had been produced as follows:

- *Police & Crime Commissioners – What Partners need to know*
- Home Office Guidance – *Police & Crime Panels*
- LGA Guidance – *Police & Crime Commissioners – A Guide for Community Safety Partnerships.*

It was noted that guidance relating to the PCC Elections was expected from Government imminently, and would be circulated when available.

The Partnership was advised that Halton sat within the Cheshire Police Force area and preparation was underway for the transition from the Police Authority to a PCC. Furthermore, a *Transition Group* had been established and David Parr had been nominated and accepted as the *Police Area Returning Officer (PARO)* for the election. It was also noted that Warrington Council had been nominated as the Host Authority for the *Police and Crime Panel*.

The report continued to present details of the PCC Elections; the Police and Crime Panels; Partnerships and Commissioning; and the preparations for the PCC and Panel in Halton.

It was noted that there was secondary legislation expected with regards to the role of the Deputy PCC and that it was hoped that the PCC would be invited to a future meeting of the Safer Halton Partnership (SHP).

RESOLVED: That the information be noted.

SHP27 SAFEGUARDING ADULTS UPDATE

The Partnership was presented with a report from the Strategic Director, Communities, Halton Borough Council (HBC) which updated on key issues and progression of the agenda for safeguarding 'vulnerable adults' in Halton.

Feedback on the *Halton Speak Out* group event that took place in September 2011 was provided. Also information was provided on the development of a pilot project in Halton, based on the *Safe Around Town* Scheme which was currently running in St Helens.

In response to feedback during the Care Quality Commission's inspection of Adult Social Care in Halton (in

2010), a working group had been formed to look at developing methods of encouraging the public to provide both positive and negative feedback on services to them. One of the outcomes was that a logo was being added to all Council literature with the strap line '*Help us to Help You*'. Dwayne welcomed the views of the Partnership on the above.

Dwayne also relayed the latest information relating to the successful prosecution of a care assistant at Ferndale Mews, sentencing would occur on 2 March 2012.

RESOLVED: That the Partnership notes the contents of the report.

SHP28 RE PROFILING OF FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR THE SHP FOR 2011-12

The Partnership was advised that in line with guidelines issued at the start of the current financial year from the Halton Strategic Partnership Board (HSPB), the Safer Halton Partnership (SHP) had agreed to set aside a portion of its 2011-12 funding to be re-profiled and used in 2012-13.

A report was presented which set out the amounts of funding to be re-profiled and provided an overview of the Community Safety review process, which informed of the allocation of this funding for 2012-13.

It was noted that the Council planned to mainstream two areas: Domestic Abuse and PCSO's, hence the zero figures in the table in 4.1 in the report. It was noted that the Partnership was pleased to support the re allocations as stated in the report.

RESOLVED: That the SHP:

1. Approves the re-profiling of the SHP 2011-12 funding, as set out within the report, for 2012-13; and
2. Approves the re-profiling of £5,000 from the Widnes Vikings Valhalla Foundation 2011-12 allocation of funding, for use in quarter one 2012-13, as set out in the report.

SHP29 COMMUNITY SAFETY REVIEW

The Partnership was updated on the Community Safety Review process and the outcome from the

consultation with key stakeholders.

It was noted that the terms of reference for the joint Police and Council Community Safety Review were reported to the SHP at the 15 November 2011 meeting. This report provided an update on the processes and the findings from the consultation with key stakeholders carried out as part of the review.

The report outlined the purposes of the community safety review together with: information relating to the current position statement; where it needed to be; and how we would get it there.

It was stated that the review had put forward a number of options for consideration by the SHP Chairs and following this, the Chairs had requested some additional work and information, which was currently being compiled. The aim was to complete the review by the end of February 2012.

The *Community Safety Review (2011)* was attached at Appendix 1. This consisted of headline results of the online survey, conducted in November 2011 by HBC Research and Intelligence Team, to identify and define their core activities and functions of the Halton Community Safety Multi-Agency Team (CST).

RESOLVED: That the Safer Halton Partnership notes the report on the Community Safety Review and the findings from the consultation with key stakeholders.

SHP30 TASK GROUP UPDATES

The Partnership received detailed updates from each Task Group and the following points were noted:

- a) Alcohol Enforcement – Alcohol licensing enforcement and related wider partnership activity continued to develop. Following the promotion of the *ArcAngel* initiative, five premises had been awarded their certificates and *The Hive* had recently decided participate. Under Age Sales Prevention continued and premises that had recently failed the test purchasing would be revisited in three months.
- b) Quarterly Alcohol Update – Alcohol hospital admissions data for April to September 2011 was presented. Tom Knight invited feedback/queries and noted the link between domestic abuse and alcohol.

It was commented that the Leader of the Council, Councillor Rob Polhill, was keen to prioritise the alcohol issue.

Information was also provided on the Alcohol Liaison Nursing (ALN) Services being progressed in Whiston and Warrington Hospitals.

- c) Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) – Numbers of total ASB, Youth ASB, Non Youth ASB were all reduced on the last quarter. The ASB Victim and Witness Support Service was explained.
- d) Crime Action Group – There had been an increase in the number of business robberies at Co-op stores and doorstep crime / rogue trader incidents were on the increase.
- e) Domestic Abuse – The Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator position and the Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (IDVA) position would be funded in future from the mainstream budget.
- f) Drugs – Treatment & Prevention – Crime Reduction Initiatives (CRI) had been in place in Ashley House since February 2012. ‘Legal High’s’ were noted as a growing concern as substances were easily purchased via the internet. Also cannabis cultivation was still prevalent in the Borough with raids being carried out by the Police.
- g) Partnership Tasking & Coordination – The problem profiles were presented for information. Diversionary activities would be planned for Bonfire Night this year and two more Respect Weeks were being planned.
- h) Hate Crimes – The system had been improved since new ways of reporting had been in place, which may account for higher figures. Other agencies had been encouraged to report hate crime.

SHP31 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- a) Blue Lamp Reports – Quarter 3 (October to December 2011) was presented for information.
- b) Performance Framework – The finalised set of approved measures and annual targets for inclusion within the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) for Safer Halton, were provided for information.

- c) The Localism Act – A report updating the SHP on some of the impacts and implications of the recently agreed Localism Act was provided for information. Seminars for Members would be taking place over the next few months.

Meeting ended at 3.45 p.m.