

SAFER HALTON PARTNERSHIP

At a meeting of the Safer Halton Partnership Wednesday, 14 May 2014 The Board Room - Municipal Building, Widnes

Present	M. Andrews	Community Safety
	S. Bell	Public Health
	K. Bennett	Cheshire Police
	D. Cargill	Police Crime Panel
	J. Duff	Faith Representative
	D. Gordon	Community Safety
	S. Henshaw	Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service
	A. Jones	Democratic Services
	D. Parr	Chief Executive
	C. Patino	Catering, Cleansing and Stadium Services
	N. Sharpe	Halton Housing Trust
	E Sutton-Thompson	Policy & Performance, Communities
	J. Williams	Commissioning - Learning Disability, Autism and Transition

Action

SHP26 WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

David Parr welcomed everyone to the meeting and the following apologies were noted: Sarah Boycott (represented by Kevin Bennett), Lorraine Crane, Dwayne Johnson (represented by Chris Patino), Deana Perchard and Gareth Jones.

SHP27 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING / MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a correct record.

SHP28 ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR REFORMS

Mike Andrews, Community Safety Manager, Halton Borough Council, presented the *Anti-Social Behaviour Reforms* to the Partnership.

Following a public consultation in 2011 which included practitioners and victims views, a White Paper was published in May 2012 titled '*Putting Victims First: More effective responses to anti-social behaviour*'.

The key points of the White Paper explained that the

current set of tools did not provide the flexibility that practitioners required to deal with ASB quickly and effectively. Additionally it stated that there needed to be more of a focus on the impact of ASB on victims (especially repeat or vulnerable victims). It also stated that victims were best supported when responses were quick and effective and that using the MARAC to drive a multi-agency approach to managing high risk cases was needed.

The reforms were initially presented at the National Community Safety Network in February 2013. The presentation went on to explain how the reforms would:

- Streamline the toolkit;
- Tackle problem individuals; and
- Tackle environmental ASB.

It also covered:

- Police powers to disperse – members discussed the ‘likely to commit’ scenario;
- Mandatory Possession;
- Empowering communities – members discussed ‘community trigger reviews’; and
- Empowering victims

It was noted that the legislation would be introduced as soon as possible but in the meantime the current powers would remain in force.

The presentation would be sent to members of the Partnership for information.

SHP29 TASK GROUP UPDATES

The Partnership received the following Task Group Updates:

- a) Alcohol Harm Reduction Group – The Wine Bar, Barley Mow and Simms Cross had all received warnings last quarter. The Raj Tandoori had undergone a licencing operation with UKBA where it was discovered there were 9 illegal workers employed there; they had since had their licence revoked. A passive drug dog operation took place on 24 January resulting in individuals being arrested in three different venues for possession of Class A drugs and one with cannabis. The *Pub Watch* scheme’s first meeting in Runcorn was held at the Ferry Boat in April. No intelligence had been

Simon Bell
Michael Andrews

received regarding potential for problems during the world cup; however it was commented that domestic violence repeat offenders would receive visits prior to this starting.

- b) Quarterly Alcohol Update – Under 18's admission numbers were dropping however numbers of females with liver disease was on the increase. Only 1/3 of referrals from the alcohol liaison nursing services at Whiston and Warrington actually attended their appointments. Social marketing aimed at schools in Halton was being prepared which would use a different approach to the one previously, using the positives of not drinking rather than the negatives of drinking.

Simon tabled the LAAA quarterly Progress report. It was noted that some of the objectives in the report were already being done in Halton. The action plan being developed would target the causes and culture of alcohol abuse and would focus on helping people to make better lifestyle choices. This would involve more work within the community working closely with RSL's, faith representatives, social workers and community workers etc.

Partners were requested to prioritise the alcohol agenda and provide feedback regarding the LAAA to Simon Bell. It was agreed that Simon and his colleague Elspeth Anwar would present an update on the LAAA at the next SHP meeting in September 2014.

- c) Anti-Social Behaviour – Year end data showed a 1.1% reduction overall on last year. It was commented that new data and intelligence around mini motos was available and would be reviewed by Police. Partners would be updated at the next meeting. Ops Mode and Partnership T&C were working on profiles associated with Dundalk Road, ASDA, Stewards Avenue and Liverpool Road.

Noted that Neighbourhood Resolution Panels had struggled to get referrals but the programme would still be rolled out. The Grange had been selected to receive a one off grant of £30,000 from the PCC for community projects. It was the people of the Grange Ward who would decide how the money was spent. It was commented that it would be helpful if the Partnership could receive a briefing on this

investment by the Commissioner at the next meeting.

- d) Domestic Abuse – The percentage of repeat victims remained fairly stable in Halton. The PCC had agreed to fund a one year pilot at Warrington Hospital whereby a qualified IDVA would be present at the hospital. Warrington Domestic Abuse Partnership would work in collaboration with Halton Domestic Abuse Forum.

The Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS) – ‘Clare’s Law’ was introduced by Cheshire Constabulary on 6 March 2014.

- e) Substance Misuse – Halton was first for effective engagement rate in the NW with 95% for problem drug users (PDU’s). For all drug users 18+, Halton had the highest engagement in the North West at 94%. These figures were improvements on last year’s 90% and 93% respectively. However Hep C positive tests had increased to 67% in quarter 3 of this year.

The Police had recently worked closely with CRI producing some positive results. It was noted that CRI management were encouraging a culture of integrated working.

- f) Partnership Tasking & Co-ordination – Overall crimes were down on quarter 3 but profile areas at Stewards Avenue / Dundalk Road remained busy, mainly with issues relating to off road motorcycles. Two respect weeks were planned in the summer during the school holidays, one in Runcorn and one in Widnes. Community Safety Officers reported that a presentation was made to the LSP regarding organised crime in Halton. It was suggested that a Halton multi-agency strategy should be developed alongside partnership groups that could be called upon following any serious crime activity.

- g) Hate Crimes & Community Tensions – Decreases in numbers were reported for quarter 4 with verbal abuse forming the most common complaint.

SHP30 POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

Mike Andrews advised that the PCC had agreed targets and funding for next year.

SHP31 POLICE & CRIME PANEL (PCP)

Dave Cargill, Chairman of the PCP, advised the Partnership that Mr Simon Byrne had now been appointed as the new Chief Constable for Cheshire who would take up his post in June.

The PCP had hosted an open day in Winsford on 11 April 2014 and the PCP members attended Police HQ in Winsford to observe the PCC on 30 April 2014.

The Police Crime Panel's Annual General Meeting would be held at the end of June 2014.

SHP32 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

The following documents were noted for information:

1. Widnes Blue Lamp Report;
2. Runcorn Blue Lamp Report;
3. Process Evaluation of the Neighbourhood Justice Panels; and
4. Briefing on Effective Responses to Women Offenders.

Meeting ended at 11.53 a.m.