

SAFER HALTON PARTNERSHIP

At a meeting of the Safer Halton Partnership Tuesday, 15 September 2009 Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn

Present	M. Andrews	Community Safety
	S. Blackwell	Cheshire Police
	D. Cargill	Police Authority
	A. Collins	Police Authority
	S. Eastwood	HBC Health and Community
	D. Houghton	HBC Policy and Partnerships
	D. Johnson	HBC Health and Community
	P. Kilgour	Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service
	R. Lynden	HBC
	N. Mannion	Neighbourhood Management
	H. Moir	HBC
	Cllr Osborne	HBC
	M. Simpson	HBC – Committee Services
	L. Weston	Cheshire Immigration Team - UK Border Agency
	Cllr Wright	HBC

Action

SHP1 WELCOME

Dwayne John welcomed everybody to the meeting and introductions were made.

The Partnership was advised that Supt Sarah Boycott was now carrying out the role that Ged Manley previously performed for Cheshire Police.

SHP2 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from David Parr – Chief Executive, Sean Henshaw – Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service, Gareth Jones – Youth Offending Team, Eileen O'Meara – NHS Halton and St. Helens, Claire Myring – Community Safety, Norman Oldman – Magistrates, Hitesh Patel – CAB, Lorna McKeown – British Transport Police, Noel Sharp – Halton Housing Trust, Chris Fraser – Riverside Housing, Gary Finchett – Cheshire Police and Chris Edwards – Probation.

SHP3 MATTERS ARISING - MINUTES FROM 12 MAY 2009

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th May 2009 were agreed as a correct record subject to it being noted that Cllr Osborne submitted apologies for the meeting of the 12th May 2009.

SHP4 PRESENTATION - VALUING PEOPLE NOW

The Partnership received a presentation from Helen Moir – Divisional Manager – Adult Learning Disability which provided information on “Valuing People Now” which was a new three-year strategy for people with learning disability from progress to transformation.

The presentation outlined the following:-

- Valuing People Now (VPN) priorities for 2009 – 2012 and key themes emerging from it;
- All of Valuing People applied to people with complex needs;
- The definition of a disability hate crime i.e. any criminal offence which was perceived to be motivated because of a persons disability or perceived disability by the victim or any other person;
- Action on hate crime was now a new part of the Valuing People policy;
- In the last year there had been two reported incidents of hate crime in Halton;
- The Board were advised of three recent incidents of hate crimes against disabled people and the commonalities between them; and
- VPN would be implemented whilst maintaining independence and safeguarding in the community.

Arising from the presentation Members discussed co-operation from GPs, educating young people in terms of recognising what hate crime was, the need for co-working with PCSOs, Neighbourhood Wardens and Housing Officers to know the reporting mechanisms as in who to speak to and where to send the information to, the quality of Halton Borough Council’s signposting and the cross party working with other agencies such as domestic violence and Housing Trusts. It was also reported that this could link in with the Equality Tactical Group.

The Chair thanked Helen for an informative presentation.

RESOLVED: That the presentation be noted.

SHP5 TASK GROUP UPDATES

The Task Groups provided updates for the first quarter which were circulated and taken as read. In particular it was noted that:

- In relation to performance management, a new style of reporting was introduced which included a summary table of the LAA/SCS indicators and other national indicators that the SHP monitored. For each of the indicators identified, a commentary was provided giving an explanation/ context to the data and a summary of key actions that had been taken to address under performance. It was noted that the data collection process was the same, however it was produced in a different format. The Partnership was advised that this format was still a working document and improvement would be evident in future meetings;
- Members requested that data be provided regarding the admissions to hospitals related to alcohol abuse;
- Members queried the spend on commissioning so far. In response it was noted that some spend had occurred since the report was circulated, therefore an e-mail would be forwarded to Members of the Board containing this information;
- Collette Walsh had been appointed by the PCT to be the lead on alcohol commissioning;
- In relation to anti-social behaviour an Enforcement Officer had been seconded from the Registered Social Landlords to investigate how we carry out enforcement;
- In relation to Community Safety systems were in place for more joined up working and there were now dedicated lawyers for Anti-Social Behaviour Orders. It was also noted that co working between PCSOs and Youth Workers was a positive step towards targeting certain areas;
- In relation to the Crime Action Group, a “Days of Action” was successfully held within the Halebank area where various activities took place such as the offer of smart water, provision of home safety

assessments, crime prevention advice was delivered, and general promotion of the Safer Halton Partnership to name a few. The Partnership was advised that due to the success of Days of Action, additional road show events were scheduled for the year;

- In respect of domestic abuse there had been an increased number of arrests and a clear improvement of service delivery. The Registered Social Landlords were joint working with Halton Borough Council to promote prevention awareness by way of leaflets to tenants;
- In relation to Neighbourhood Management the Partnership was notified that resulting from the 2008 Place Survey the most pleasing result was that relating to NI4 where 39.8% of the respondents in the NMA's stated that they felt they could influence decisions in their locality; and
- With regard to POPO it was reported that a target of a 15% reduction of offender rates had been reached.

RESOLVED: That the Task Group updates be noted.

SHP6 SAFEGUARDING VULNERABLE ADULTS

The Partnership considered a report of the Strategic Director, Health and Community which provided an update on the key issues and progression of the agenda for the protection of vulnerable adults in Halton.

In particular, it was noted that the Constabulary's Northern PPU had formally responded to recommendations contained in the report from the Scrutiny Review commissioned last year by the Safer Halton and Healthy Halton Policy and Performance Boards. In addition to the increased resources, at Detective Inspector level reported to the last Partnership meeting, a dedicated Vulnerable Adults Officer now operated at detective constable level.

It was further noted that all other recommendations of the Scrutiny Review of 2008 had now been followed up and additional two areas had been identified for further consideration by Elected Members at a later date. It was also reported that there had been a significant increase in numbers of people attending the training.

RESVOLED: That the report be noted.

SHP7 DEDICATED DRUGS TEAM

The Board received the first quarterly report of the Northern Area Dedicated Drugs Team which outlined the following:

- Overview of individual areas such Runcorn and Widnes;
- Drugs weeks;
- Details of operations such as Operation Flank, South and Cherry;
- Details of various dealers detected and the excellent results and positive affects these arrests have brought; and
- The outline of staff moves within the Northern Area Dedicated Drugs Team.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

SHP8 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

The following items were attached for information:

- Department of Health Funding;
- Reducing Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour;
- Next Steps;
- Policy Briefing Primary Justice – August 2009;
- SHP 2009 Quarter 1 update amended version;
- Contest Report Safer Halton Partnership; and
- Northern Contest Board Minutes.

RESOLVED: That the items for information be noted.

Meeting ended at 4.00 p.m.