

SAFER HALTON PARTNERSHIP

At a meeting of the Safer Halton Partnership Tuesday, 20 November 2012 in the Civic Suite, Town Hall, Runcorn

Present	M. Andrews	Community Safety
	S. Ashcroft	Halton Borough Council
	S. Boycott	Cheshire Police
	D. Cargill	Police Authority
	H. Coen	Performance & Improvement, HBC
	L. Crane	Children's Organisation & Provision
	J. Davidson	Cheshire Probation Service
	D. Johnson	Communities, HBC
	G. Jones	Youth Offending Team
	P. McWade	Commissioning & Complex Care
	D. Parr	Chief Executive
	A. Scott	Democratic Services
	L. Smallthwaite	Warrington & Halton Trading Standards
	A. Waller	Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service

Action

SHP46 WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

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

He also welcomed Sarah Boycott, who had been appointed as the new Area Commander, and placed on record his thanks to her predecessor, Richard Strachan, for his work and dedication to the Partnership.

SHP47 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from John Williams, Colette Walsh, David Gordon and Anna Collins.

SHP48 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2012 were agreed as a correct record.

SHP49 INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN - FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

Alex Waller, from Cheshire Fire and Rescue Service, presented the consultation document '*Cheshire Fire Authority Making Cheshire Safer – Integrated Risk*

Management Plan 2013-14, and informed partners of the possible implication for Halton that may arise from this.

The Partnership was advised that Cheshire Fire Service had developed a Strategy – Planning for a Safer Cheshire, which set out the approach and the direction it intended to take from 2011-2015. The Strategy was supported by a series of annual Integrated Risk Management Plans (IRMP). These publications included up to date risk information and outlined how resources would be used cost effectively to reduce the potential risk to life in local communities.

Cheshire Fire Service had now published a draft document IRMP, which outlined the proposals for 2013-14 and beyond. It was reported that budget cuts of up to £5 million were expected over the next four years, so Cheshire Fire Service had carried out a fundamental review into how its frontline emergency response service could be delivered most effectively in the future. A comprehensive package of options had been developed which would enable the Fire Service to hit its savings targets, including estimated salary savings of between £3-5 million over the next four years. The key principles behind the proposals were presented to the group and listed in the report.

Information on costs and funding of the Cheshire area was provided in the report, together with information on the risks and activities in recent years, response standards, the current position across Cheshire and the current position in Halton. The proposals for Halton as part of the Draft Integrated Risk Management Plan were listed in the report and were discussed by the Partnership.

It was noted that there was a consultation process taking place on the proposals for Cheshire and Halton which would run until 17 December 2012.

Partners discussed the following related issues:

- The trend for the reduction of the number of incidents which had seen a 41.3% reduction since 2004, and whether this was expected to continue;
- The proposed options for savings at the Runcorn station;
- The potential impact on the Services' ability to contribute to important community safety, fire prevention and Partnership work if staffing levels were reduced.

RESOLVED:

1. that the report be noted; and
2. Partners would respond to the consultation by 17 December 2012.

SHP50 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY MID-YEAR PROGRESS REPORT & ANNUAL REVIEW OF MEASURES AND TARGETS 2013-16

A report was presented to the Partnership which provided information on the progress in achieving targets contained within the 2011-2016 Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) for Halton, and highlighted the annual 'light touch' review of targets and measures.

It was stated that the SCS, a central document for the Council and its partners, provided evidence based framework through which actions and shared performance targets could be developed and communicated.

A new SCS had been developed since central Government announced the ending of government performance management of local authorities through Local Area Agreements (LAAs). It was still necessary however to maintain some form of effective performance management framework in order to meet the Government's expectation that the Council would publish performance information, and to measure progress towards our own objectives for the improvement of the quality of life in Halton. The new SCS (2011-16) was approved by the Council on 20 April 2011.

Appended to the report were two appendices, Appendix 1: a six month progress report which summarised all indicators for Safer Halton within the SCS; and additional information for those specific indicators and targets that fell within the remit of the Partnership; also Appendix 2: a report that included all previously approved target setting rationale updated with 2011-12 performance information and regional and national and statistical neighbours to provide a contextual backdrop where available and showing trends over time.

The Partnership was asked to review targets for 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16, and where appropriate update targets in light of actual/anticipated performance, also submitting supporting commentary to explain the rationale for changes to targets set. Additionally they were asked to consider the inclusion of any additional measures

to the above set to narrow gaps in performance where appropriate or respond to legislative/policy changes thereby ensuring that all measures remained fit for purpose.

RESOLVED: That

1. the report be noted;
2. the Partnership considered whether it required any further information concerning actions taken to achieve the performance targets contained within Halton's 2011-16 Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS); and
3. the Partnership reviewed the previously approved set of key measures and annual targets for the period to 2016 in line with the SCS Delivery Plan, and a final proposal would be recommended for adoption at the next meeting on 18 February 2013.

SHP51 TASK GROUP UPDATES

The following Task Group updates were presented to the Partnership:

Alcohol Harm Reduction Group – This group (formerly known as the Alcohol Enforcement Group) had developed its wider partnership activity in recognition of the wider role that health had to play in this area. It had developed activities around harm prevention and making greater use of referrals on order to deal with root cause issues. The focus of alcohol related enforcement activity was aimed at the night time economy, targeting multi agency activity towards limiting the supply of alcohol to young and vulnerable children. Of note was the recent grant of a licence to 5.00am at the Establishment in Widnes, which the Police had objected to, and the possible knock-on effect for other licensed premises in the area to follow suit.

Quarterly Alcohol Update – Following consultation with key stakeholders, a revised Halton Local Alcohol Strategy would be published in March 2013. It was noted that from next year, Amanda Lewis would be the Lead Officer for the Strategy. A series of events had been planned for Alcohol Awareness Week, details of which were circulated with the minutes.

Anti-Social Behaviour – It was reported that there had been a 1% reduction in the past quarter, compared to the same quarter in 2011/12. However, the areas of Birchfield,

Farnworth and Hough Green in Widnes had seen a slight increase during August. Discussions with Sarah Boycott had taken place to see what targeted resources could be put in place to help restore public confidence in Widnes. Members commented on the successful arrangements that had been in place for Bonfire night.

Domestic Abuse – It was reported that an action plan had been developed to support children and young people affected by domestic abuse in Halton, with short, medium and longer terms actions. It was noted that the definition of domestic violence would now include young people under 18, and was the latest action by Government to tackle violence against women and girls.

Drugs – Treatment and Prevention – Work on this would be aligned with the public health arena and it was reported that GP's were keen to engage in the process.

Navigate Offender Management – an update on this would be reported to the next meeting.

Hate Crimes – It was noted that Halton Borough Council were developing a new Anti-bullying Policy and Charter Mark for School, along with a new reporting system. There had been a seasonal increase in the number of unauthorised encampments by the travelling community in the Northern Division.

Partnership – Tasking and Coordination – The group reported that it continued to target the emerging trends and seasonal patterns to address hot spots in the area. Of particular concern this quarter had been Bechers and Upton Green, Widnes, Gathurst Court, Widnes and Rock Park, Runcorn. In addition, Operation Staysafe continued in July and August to tackle vulnerable young people in the Borough to identify youth drinking through a partnership operation in Halton.

Adult Safeguarding Board – The Annual Report described how organisations and individuals across all sectors were working together to safeguard vulnerable people. It was noted that the report explained the national context in which Halton was operating and listed the Board's priorities for the coming year.

SHP52 POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER ELECTION RESULTS

David Parr reported on the results from the recent

Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Elections.

Mr John Dwyer, Conservative candidate, was elected as the first PCC for Cheshire at the central count held on Friday 16 November, in Northgate Arena, Chester. The election process used the supplementary voting system, where a voter could indicate first and second preferences. As no one candidate achieved an overall majority, the count proceeded to the second preference count. Votes for the two candidates that went forward - Councillor John Stockton (Labour candidate) and Mr John Dwyer (Conservative candidate) to the second round were counted and Mr John Dwyer was elected. The turnout for Cheshire was 14.08%

The Partnership was asked to consider suggestions for work within the Halton area, which the new PCC could undertake; ideas should be sent by email to David Parr.

It was noted that Mr Dwyer would formally accept his appointment as Cheshire PCC (to May 2016), at a ceremony at Police HQ on 21 November 2012.

RESOLVED: That the update be noted.

SHP53 COUNCILLOR DAVE CARGILL - POLICE AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVE

David Parr placed on record his thanks, on behalf of the Partnership, to Councillor Dave Cargill for his support and commitment to the work of the Partnership over a number of years.

Councillor Cargill had attended meetings as the Cheshire Police Authority representative. With the demise of the Police Authority, it was noted that this would be his final meeting attending in that capacity.

Councillor Cargill thanked the Partnership, and outlined the role of the new Police and Crime Panel (PCP), which was part of the new governance and accountability arrangements, that would maintain a regular check and balance on the performance of the recently appointed Police and Crime Commissioner. It was noted that the PCP would be formed from twelve Elected Members representing the four Cheshire authorities and that a recruitment process was underway for the appointment of two Independent Members to sit alongside them on the Panel. It was further noted that the chairmanship of the new PCP would be determined at the first formal meeting of the Panel on 14 December 2012.

RESOLVED: That the update on the Cheshire Police and Crime Panel be noted.

SHP54 NATIONAL WHITE RIBBON CAMPAIGN

The Partnership was advised of the National White Ribbon Campaign. White badges, which could be worn to show support for the campaign, were available free of charge from Sarah Ashcroft.

SHP55 YOUTH GRAFFITI SOLUTIONS

Gareth Jones from the Youth Offending Team (YOT) raised awareness of the short promotional video that they had made about Youth Graffiti Solutions which can be found via the attached link:-

www.youthgraffitisolutions.co.uk

(If you click on the link then 'About' the drop down menu has a link to the promotional video).

Partners were asked for their support in developing the project to offer two apprenticeships for young people. YOT needed to have the apprenticeship programme up and running before Christmas if they were to guarantee access to Government grants.

SHP56 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

The following documents were provided to the Partnership for information:

- a) Safer Halton Policy Bulletin – November
- b) Blue Lamp Report – Runcorn
- c) Blue Lamp Report - Widnes

SHP57 ALCOHOL AWARENESS WEEK

The activities being delivered by Young Addaction during Alcohol awareness Week commencing on 19 November 2012 were announced and are attached to the minutes.

Meeting ended at 3.30 p.m.