



THE SAFER THURROCK PARTNERSHIP

LEADERSHIP GROUP MINUTES
Meeting held on Thursday 13th September 2007
Committee Room 1, Civic Offices, Thurrock Council
10.00 - 3.00pm

Present:

Graham Carey (Chair)	Neighbourhood & Partnership Superintendent	Essex Police
Alex Bamber	Assistant Chief Probation Officer	Essex Probation
Selena Bolingbroke	LSP Director	Local Strategic Partnership
Michelle Cunningham (Part Minutes)	Partnership Manager	Thurrock Council
Cllr Gareth Davies	Essex Fire Authority Representative	Essex Fire Authority
Stuart Freel	Head of Resources Development & Lifelong Learning	Thurrock Council
Karen Hillen	Crime & Drugs Team	Go-East
Dave Northcott	Partnership Manager (Interim)	Thurrock Council
Jacqui Payne	Community Involvement Board	Ngage
Lorna Payne	Corp Director of Community Well-Being	Thurrock Council
Steve Reynolds	Community Safety Manager	Essex Fire & Rescue Service
Cllr Pauline Tolson	Thurrock Council Representative	Thurrock Council
Lyn Snell (Part Minutes)	STP Support	Thurrock Council
Invitees (in-part)		
Mary Delaney	Drug Alcohol Action Team Manager	Thurrock Council
Peter Kay	Youth Offending Service Manager	Thurrock Council
Jim Nicolson	Drug Alcohol Action Team	Thurrock Council
Mark Rayner (Observer)	Inspector	Essex Police

Apologies

Alan Cotgrove	District Commander	Essex Police
Olly Holford	Community Commander	Essex Fire & Rescue Service
Cllr Ben Maney	Portfolio Holder for Crime & Disorder	Thurrock Council
Laura Mhlanga	Chief Executive	SW P.C.T.
Naya Naqvi	Director	CVS
Angie Ridgwell	Chief Executive	Thurrock Council
Colin Slasberg	Responsible Officers Group (Chair)	Thurrock Council
David Watts	Local Safeguarding Children's Board	Thurrock Council



1.0 **Introductions & Apologies**

2.0 **Items for AOB**

- Motorcycle Nuisance
- Secure Site Development
- Community Cohesion Workshop

3.0 **Minutes of 7th June 2007**

These, having been previously circulated were accepted as a true copy.

4.0 **Outstanding Actions /Matters arising 7/6/07**

For a full up-date on the previous outstanding actions please refer to Appendix A.

Action

To arrange an invitation for Graham C to attend the LAA transition HCOP workshop.

Selena Bolingbroke

Action

To speak to Peter Kay (YOS) to arrange a meeting with NOMS Regional Estates manager to try and resolve the Five Wells Matter

Stuart Freel

Action

To arrange a meeting to include GC, AB and Brian Hoy who is responsible for Council leasing with the NOMS Regional Estates manager to try and resolve the continued rent on Five Wells Building matter

Peter Kay

Strategic governance for Youth Offending Service

Action

To speak to Chief Executive for her views regarding the proposal for the chief executive of the council to chair the YOS Management Board group meetings.

Lorna Payne

Action

Regarding the above proposal Selena to look at a range of options available and report back her findings.

Selena Bolingbroke

Action

To look at the options used in other areas and report back.

Karen Hillen

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5.0 **Safer Thurrock Performance**

Presented by Dave Northcott

5.1 **IQUANTA CDRP Performance 06/07** (copies of full report have been circulated to all members).

This report was submitted to the Safer Thurrock Partnership (STP) leadership group to give a progress report on the performance towards the STP targets for 2008.

The STP is on track to meet its 3 year target for the reduction of BCS crime – 19.5% reduction. Currently in month 30 of 36 month cycle, reduction at present is 19%.

Areas of concern:-

Theft or unauthorised taking of a cycle Up 2%

Robbery of personal property Up 3%

As at the end of July 2007 (All Crime) against our Most Similar CDRPs per 1000 residents is 26,264.

(GC) informed the group that the majority of core crime is vehicle crime and West Thurrock has the highest figures of vehicle crime in the whole of Essex.

He said 'he would be happy to share IQUANTA data with all partners'.

Cllr GD raised the issue of un-reporting of Hate Crime. (GC) responded by saying he shares the concerns and the issues of engagement, reporting of incidents, trigger plans will all be discussed at the Community Cohesion meeting scheduled to take place on 27th September 2007, 11 – 12.30.

(SB) pointed out the need to look at how we are currently reaching out to people.

5.2 **Responsible Officers Group** (paper circulated to all members for noting)

Presented by Dave Northcott

Discussion on the implications for partnership on LAA and CDRP reviews will take place at next ROG meeting 20/9/07.

Areas of Concern:-

Prolific and Priority Offender Group (PPO)

This group needs improvement and has currently not been fully contributed to. (GC) informed the group that he has deployed a DCI Lee Osborne who will be involved with this group to look at the issues and how to improve the performance of the group. He will also be liaising with Roy Fenning from Go-East.

ASB - Community Safety Action Group (CSAG)

To –date 11,000 calls have been made to the Police concerning ASB.

Figures from the Warrior system are not showing a true reflection.

ASB calls to the Council are currently not being recorded by Vertex staff.

Hate Crime

(MC) informed the group that she had recently attended a Hate Crime delivery group meeting where she had observed signs of the group members starting to work together to deliver the group's objectives.

Sexual Crime

There is a vast amount of Home Office guidance currently being produced on sexual violence. The group are currently looking at producing a Sexual Violence action plan

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based around this guidance.

Data Sharing Protocol

98% of the draft document previously circulated has now been agreed. 2% minor issues to be resolved.

Action

Regarding the minor issues above, to look into changing the term Sex Life within the document.

Graham Carey

Action

To look at comments from Essex Police and up-date Michelle Cunningham

Janet Davison

Recommendation

That all Partnership members are signed up to the Data Sharing Protocol by the time of the next meeting Dec 07.

AGREED

5.3 LAA performance Shaping Thurrock Executive Group September 2007

Presented by Dave Northcott

(Paper circulated to all members for noting)

(GC) informed the group that there were some minor amendments to be made to the document and that he was meeting with (MC) to discuss this. The final draft should be available from Monday 17/9/07.

Commentary on all LAA reward targets

1.Reduction in wounding stood at 9.46/1000 down from 10.15/1000 at the end of Apr 07. This has continued to reduce and as of July 2007 stood at 8.29/1000 with a stretch target of 8.73/1000. However this figure whilst good news is subject to reporting and offending changes over the next 2 years.

2. Detection rate for DV for year ending 06/07 at 61.5%. Baseline was 47.5%. Stretch target is 65%. This also is a good news story with detection rates standing at 81.8% for the month of June with an average detection rate of 76.3% for the quarter.

3. Reduction in % of persons who are repeat victims of DV. Currently at 22.8%, exceeding the stretch target of 25%.

Action

The full definition of wounding to be circulated with the minutes.

Lyn Snell

(DN) said 'there are a number of Fear of Crime targets to be met, but recent surveys have shown fear of crime has increased so we will be unable to meet these targets'.

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(GC) said 'we need to look at informing people regarding the true perception of crime'.

6.0 Finance Up-date

Presented by Dave Northcott

Detailed reports have been circulated to all members.

6.1 Basic Command Unit (BCU) Funding Total Allocation: £143,846.00

Committed to date £128,000.00

Total carry forward £15,846.00

Building Safer Communities (BSC) Funding Total Allocation: £188,584.00

Revenue - Total Allocation £135,316.00

Committed to date £134,624.00

Total carry forward £692.00

Capital -Total Allocation £53,268.00

Committed to date £24,000.00

Total carry forward £29,268.00

Total Committed to date £158,624.00

Total carry forward £29,960.00

Joint Funding Pot Total Allocation: £34,345.00

Committed to date Total: £23,000.00

Total carry forward £11,345.00

Available monies to spend:

Revenue £27,883.00

Capital £29,268.00

Please note inclusion of funding from Police Authority of £9,345.00

This money means that the planned cuts to funding for ASB co-ordinator is now no longer required.

Karen Hillen from Go East confirmed that Capital funding bids under £10k are acceptable and just need to be applied for in writing. Council regulations concerning Capital spend does not apply to Partnership funding.

Cllr GD asked if it was possible to have a breakdown of the Joint Funding pot, such as the Fire Service contribution showing how much money has been spent and how the money has contributed to the reduction of crime.

<p>Action</p> <p>To produce a breakdown of the Joint Funding Pot for the next meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Michelle Cunningham</p>
<p>Action</p> <p>To speak to Kate Taylor (Police) to produce a financial summary spread sheet of the Police spend for the next meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Graham Carey</p>

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6.2 **LAA Implications for STP**

The Shaping Thurrock Partnership Board is to decide what the priorities will be for Thurrock.

The Safer Thurrock Partnership is currently unclear what funding will be received. There are 50 performance indicators that will get most of the funding.

(MC) raised the issue should vehicle crime not be one of those indicators does that mean the partnership would not receive any funding for vehicle crime.

(DN) said 'this issue needed to be raised at the Shaping Thurrock Executive Group meeting sooner rather than later'.

Action

To ensure it is raised at the next Shaping Thurrock Executive Group meeting as to what the priorities will be regarding the Safer Thurrock Partnership.

Graham Carey

7.0 **Strategic Performance Updates**

7.1 **Shaping Thurrock Partnership Board up-date**

Presented by Selena Bolingbroke

Last meeting of the Shaping Thurrock Executive Meeting took place on 17/7/07. Selena commented on the excellent presentation from the Safer Thurrock Partnership to the board.

She outlined what had been discussed at the meeting.

Membership

New membership that was fit for purpose was agreed. Cllr Purkiss has now joined the group as a new member.

The group have elected a new chair Val Liddiard who is also chair of Thurrock PCT and Alan Field as Vice Chair.

New Strategy - LAA Agreement

Challenging agenda ahead on how we deliver the New Strategy and LAA Agreement from April 2008. The focus will be on improving the local area and there is a real opportunity of making more of what is already working and already in place.

Currently waiting for Home Office guidance that should be available from middle of November 2007.

Domestic Violence agenda will need to incorporate Sexual Violence targets.

Community Cohesion agenda to increase the reporting of Hate Crime.

LSP are developing a Communications Strategy and a draft version will be discussed at the next executive group meeting next week.

(KH) confirmed there is a suite of 200 performance indicators available from 8/10/07 and Thurrock will need to choose 35, the rest will still continue to be measured. The stretch targets will be carried over to local targets in the LAA.

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7.2 Local Safeguarding Children's Board up-date

Presented by Stuart Freel

(Copies of full report have been circulated to all members.)

Have completed re-structure of LSCB. Key driver here was to separate responsibility for safeguarding delivery from holding services to account. As a result the previous work-stream groups of the LSCB have moved to Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership. Community Safety group is within Youth Crime Prevention within the STP.

Monitoring sub-group will remain with LSCB. Will plan and deliver proactive programme of monitoring and evaluation of safeguarding services

Recruitment process for independent chair complete and independent chair appointed. David Watts is in process of completing revision of the LSCB business plan in light of restructure

Children's Overview and Scrutiny considered option of reports on safeguarding performance from LSCB. Committee agreed to request same reports as presented to LSP, for members of Overview and Scrutiny to consider and comment on where relevant and appropriate.

There is a requirement to have a Children's Trust in place, which will eventually replace Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership (CYPSP) by March 2008.

Action

To contact David Watts to ensure the links are made between the Children's Trust and the Safer Thurrock Partnership.

Michelle Cunningham

8.0 Crime & Disorder Act Implementation (copies have been circulated to all members)

Presented by Graham Carey

The Crime & Disorder Act Review Implementation in England document has been noted by the group.

There are a number of major national developments underway which require us to review the structure and workings of the Safer Thurrock Partnership.

1. Home Office are to publish guidance in September that will bring about new working practices for all CDRPs. The Safer Thurrock partnership needs to be ready to adapt and change accordingly.
2. The Government's new Crime Strategy – Cutting Crime 2008 – 2011 is pointing to new priorities for Crime and Disorder Partnerships. The STP needs to be ready to adapt and change accordingly.
3. A review of the Local Area Agreement is underway and this may refocus the CDRP on new areas of work over and above those areas that already merit reward targets. The CDRP needs to engage fully in this review.
4. New PSA targets will be published in the autumn that should link in with the Crime Strategy and hopefully the review of the LAA. Again the CDRP needs to be ready to adapt and reposition itself to begin to focus on delivering what is required by April 2008.

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(GC) Accepting that the ROG has only recently reviewed its own structure I nonetheless believe a small working group needs to be established to consider that listed above and make recommendations on possible changes. The question to be asked is whether the current structure, membership, terms of reference, and working practices of the STP is fit to deliver what is likely to be asked of it over 2008-2011. I would hope that this initial work could be completed by Christmas 2007 with a view to implementing any recommended change by March 2008.

Accordingly, I seek member's view on how to take this forward.

Action
 To arrange a small working group to ensure that the STP is fit for purpose to deliver the LAA and SCS targets in the 2008 – 11 CDRP Strategy.
Michelle Cunningham

Action
 To circulate regional training event dates for the launch of PSA's.
Karen Hillen

(KH) informed the group that the Home Office preparation plan guidance will be out in the next few days and the toolkit should be available by the end of September 2007.

(SB) said 'it is important that the right links are made with all partner agencies'.

(GC) pointed out that further guidance from the Home Office will be coming out shortly. When this is received it will be circulated to all members.

9.0 **Constitutional Issues**
 (Presented by Graham Carey)

Cutting Crime (A New Partnership 2008 – 11)

An executive summary of this report has been circulated to all members.

The strategy proposed identifies a number of key areas for focus over the period 2008 - 11

1. Stronger focus on serious violence
2. Continued pressure on anti-social behaviour
3. Renewed focus on young people
4. New national approach to designing out crime
5. Continuing to reduce re-offending
6. Greater sense of national partnership
7. Freeing up local partners, building public confidence

(GC) summed up by saying more partnership working was needed with business and industry and it was important to have the right people in the right places and were given the time to develop.

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10.0 **Youth Offending Service (YOS) Up-date**

(Presented by Peter Kay)

A detailed report has been circulated to all members.

Peter Kay (YOS) Manager joined the meeting to provide an update on the Youth Offending Service end of year report 2006-07.

10.1 **Performance:**

Overall - slippage 73.2 to 70.2

On track to achieve aim of level 4 at year end

Prevention KPI – reduction first timers should be red, feel police are putting more young people into the criminal justice system.

(GC) believes this should reduce as less profile on arrest and caution for low level public order offences.

KPI performance low due to not scoring on all restorative process – difficult to engage with victims, good work being done by YISP on parenting work.

Education, Training, Employment (ETE), 30% have some form of ETE in place. About 25% mainly 16 years and over have no ETE. Funding and links made to improve this e.g. skills based courses, mentoring, opera house.

Role of education person in team changed, more holistic and linked to truancy.

Issues

(1) Recruitment of Mental Health worker –advertisement in place, difficult to assess young people without this post in place. Youth Justice Board approach to YOS is more intensive work for high-level offenders. Key to this and high risk is a Mental Health worker. This needs to be a community psychiatric nurse to assess and signpost. High waiting list for children & families consultation service even after assessment can take 5 months. Open Door, there is an SLA in place which will now provide some counselling for YOS

(2) Police officer has left YOS. This post was responsible for all pre-court work, final warnings and reprimands. Back up cover in place, however still require vacancy to be replaced. There is an issue around not having a Thurrock allowance paid as this is an HQ post. Short-term cover for 2 days a week advertised – no applicants. Allowance issue to be resolved before advertising again.

Action

If continues to be a blockage with the above issue then Peter Kay to contact Graham Carey for support.

Peter Kay

(3) Senior and practitioner posts (25% case resource) have been vacant for 2 months, only received permission from Thurrock Council to recruit after business case generated and been before cabinet. Potential impact on risk assessments. Should rules of Thurrock Council be applied to YOS which is a pooled partnership budget and has different grant funded posts?

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Action

To obtain clarity from Peter Kay and to discuss further.

Michelle Cunningham

(4) Still no Quality Assurance or Performance role as highlighted by HMI. Either practitioner post lost to provide results or funding found within next years budget

Action

To follow up with Mary Delaney the opportunity for the ASB Co-ordinator funding to be used for Youth Crime Prevention Group.

Michelle Cunningham

(5) Children's Fund, particularly YISP funding risk with the uncertainty over Youth Justice Board previously funding the children's fund. Peter Kay to be now included in transition. Essex transition meetings on LAA targets.

(6) (PK) presented YJ disposal figures. An increase in quite serious violence offences has been noticed by Y.P. who have not been brought to their notice before.

Action

To produce a graph for young offenders offences leading to YJ disposal including quite serious violence offences over 2 years and circulate to deliver groups.

Lyn Snell

11.0 **Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) Up-date**

(Presented by Mary Delaney)

(Full detailed report has been circulated to all members)

Mary Delaney provided the progress update on the DAAT.

The DAAT continues to perform well against all its targets, with particular success in the period under review in getting clients into treatment via the DIP. The opening of the OASIS Resource Centre has been a key development and helped support further performance improvement. On the un-audited findings of the Healthcare Commission's survey, Thurrock DAAT had the second highest score amongst the 149 DAATs in England and Wales. As four other DAATs shared the highest score, Thurrock DAAT, with one point less was placed fifth equal. This is enormously encouraging to all the staff amongst the service providers.

DIP Unit costing exactly how much does it cost to provide care for one person.
Unit Cost - Nationally £2285 – Essex £2800 – Southend £5000 – Thurrock £835
As you can see Thurrock compared to other areas is providing a quality service together with good value for money.

Following Vanessa Nicholls visit, Thurrock DAAT is getting national recognition and the National Director of the DIP programme Peter Wheelhouse visiting 14/9/07 to meet workers and service users.

University of Kent commissioned to undertake a full needs assessment. NTA are

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quoting as best practise.

Data capture producing consistent data is imminent.

Publicity leaflets are now available.

A new user group and forum has been launched.

Spread of blood borne viruses now being given attention. Robust needle exchange programme now in place.

Training event held between DAAT and Supporting People for housing providers to ensure service users are offered the appropriate accommodation.

Transition work from Young People to adult currently being worked on to close the gap.

New national strategy out for consultation, promoting prominence of alcohol and drugs, for implementation Apr 08.

There is an opportunity during Thurrock's custody suite closure, to mouth swab for drugs. There have been pilot areas and this is now available nationally, however there is no resource available to fund this.

There are 2 schemes:

Voluntary drug test, about £10 test. Low numbers found to go through DIP.

Compulsory drug test for certain offences in intensive DIP areas (which Thurrock is not one). This is resource intensive.

Action
To meet to discuss the temporary closure of Thurrock's custody suite and the impact this will have on drug testing.
Graham Carey and Mary Delaney

Action
To send guidance on compulsory legislation to Graham Carey with a caveat that expensive.
Karen Hillen

Mary and Graham to discuss options further.
Graham Carey and Mary Delaney

DAAT Staffing

Dave Northcott who has been appointed Joint Commissioning Manager for the DAAT will now be on a 3 months secondment to the ASB team. Billie Dhanoia from the Police will support the ASB team for 3 months.

ASB discussion on restructure, Mary Delaney welcomed (GC) offer of Police support. Need to look at ASBO's, training of Police officers for them also potential for ASBI's

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which are quicker.

YOS working with housing on ABC's particularly on graffiti. Good opportunity to set up again from fresh. (GC) to facilitate visits to best practise areas.

12.0 **AOB**

12.1 **Motor Cycle Nuisance up-date**

(GC) commented that Scrambler bikes are low priority when reported. Working group has been offered land in South Ockendon which is for possible development to a motor cycle track. Tarmac offered a site but is not appropriate due to access and close to residents. 20th September 2007 is the date for the next meeting.

12.2 **Secure Site Development.**

(GC) raised the issue of derelict buildings – no impetus on owners to board up so properties are open to vandalism, arson, theft of copper piping etc. There is a need to fill the gap between property purchases.

Action

To take to ROG for delivery group to address.

Michelle Cunningham

12.3 **Community Cohesion Workshop.**

A gentle reminder that we are having a meeting on Thursday 27th September 1100 to 1230 in the Council Chamber. This is a one off focus group on Community Cohesion. Could you advise asap Mary Delaney if there is anyone has been inadvertently overlooked and should included in the invitation list.

Leona Patterson (Acting Deputy Dir of Strategy), Thames Gateway Strategy Division) will be presenting a 15 min overview of the national and regional picture followed by Simon Black with the local dimension. We will then debate and at the end we should have a common understanding of Community Cohesion, ownership of responsibility and shared agreement/plan on the way to move this agenda forward.

Graham Carey (chair) on behalf of the Partnership welcomed Michelle Cunningham back from Maternity leave and thanked Dave Northcott for his commitment and contribution to the partnership and wished him well in his future position.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 14:50

The date of the next meeting is 13th December 2007.

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