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AGENDA ITEM 2

THE SAFER THURROCK PARTNERSHIP

LEADERSHIP GROUP MINUTES

Meeting held on Thursday 13th December 2007
 Committee Room 1, Civic Offices, Thurrock Council
 10.00 - 3.00pm

Present:

Graham Carey (Chair)	Neighbourhood & Partnership Superintendent	Essex Police
Mark Ansell	Assistant Director of Public Health	S.W Primary Care Trust
Alex Bamber	Assistant Chief Probation Officer	Essex Probation
Selena Bolingbroke	LSP Director	Local Strategic Partnership
Adas Butler	Volunteer Services	C.V.S
Michelle Cunningham	Partnership Manager	Thurrock Council
Olly Holford	Community Commander	Essex Fire & Rescue Service
Cllr Ben Maney	Portfolio Holder for Crime & Disorder	Thurrock Council
Jacqui Payne	Community Involvement Board	Ngage
Angie Ridgwell (in part)	Chief Executive	Thurrock Council
Lyn Snell (Minutes)	STP Support	Thurrock Council

Apologies

Rosie Barker	Operations Manager	Capital Shopping Ltd
Alan Cotgrove	District Commander	Essex Police
Cllr Gareth Davies	Essex Fire Authority Representative	Essex Fire Authority
Mary Delaney	Drug Alcohol Action Team Manager	Thurrock Council
Stuart Freal	Head of Resources Development & Lifelong Learning	Thurrock Council
Katherine Gronqvist	Director of Public Health	S.W Primary Care Trust
Clare Lawrence	Crime & Drugs Team	Go-East
Robert McCulloch	Corp Director of Children, Education and Families	Thurrock Council
Graham	Head of 14 – 19 Provision and Youth Director	Thurrock Council
Jay Mercer	Corp Dir of Sustainable Communities	CVS
Naya Naqvi	Thurrock Police Authority Representative	Thurrock Council
Bill Newman	Responsible Officers Group (Chair)	Essex Police Authority
Cllr J Purkiss	Thurrock Council Representative	Thurrock Council
Colin Slasberg	Crime & Drugs Team	Thurrock Council
Cllr Pauline Tolson	Local Safeguarding Children's Board	Go East
Mike Ward		Thurrock Council
David Watts		

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1.0 **Introductions & Apologies**

(GC) noted the high number of apologies for today's meeting and emphasised that better attendance will be needed in the new year.

2.0 **Items for AOB**

- Explanation of funding Process (AB)
- Five Wells back rent issue

3.0 **Minutes of 13th September 2007**

The Minutes of the meeting of 13th September 2007 were agreed.

4.0 **Outstanding Actions /Matters arising 13/9/07**

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

5.0 **Safer Thurrock Performance**

Presented by Michelle Cunningham

5.1 **IQUANTA CDRP Performance 07/08** (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 2005-08. The STP is on track to meet its 3 year target for the reduction of BCS crime – 19.5% reduction. Currently in month 33 of 36 month cycle, reduction at present is 23%.

All crimes are decreasing with the exception of Robbery of personal property which is the only crime that is on the increase, Up 7%.

Comparison to Most Similar Group (MSG) 1/8/07 – 31/10/07

We are currently below average and performing well against our (MSG)
The (MSG) will be changing as from April 2008.

BCS Comparator crime 1/11/04 – 31/10/07

Down 11% from previous quarter
Down 19% from previous year
Down 9% from previous year to date
Down 6% from previous year ending selected month

All Crime per 1000 residents 1/8/07 – 31/10/07

Still on average

Racially Aggravated Offences 1/8/07 – 31/10/07

Above average

There undoubtedly remains a discrepancy between the level of crime recorded to police and people's perceptions of the true level of crime. Many people would probably not agree that the published police crime statistics reflected their experience of crime locally. (SB) noted that more work was needed around customer relationship looking at perception of crime in Thurrock and making residents feel safer. There was also probably scope for better management around people reporting crime.

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Issues noted:

1. The issuing of crime numbers on reporting.
2. Poor response in getting back to people with outcomes of crime
3. Addressing and responding to reported ASB incidents quicker.
4. Action for ROG to consider running an EAT event at night

5.2 **Responsible Officers Group (ROG)** (paper circulated to all members for noting)
Presented by Michelle Cunningham

Areas of Concern:-

Membership

Membership issues with key groups. Dr Kishor Padki will be attending the ROG on behalf of the PCT.

Prolific and Priority Offender Group (PPO)

Alan Cotgrove (Police) has taken on the Chair from Carol Parker (Probation). Roy Fenning from Go-East is undertaking a review of our PPO systems and processes at the invitation of the Leadership Group. It is widely expected that the report will highlight deficiencies and provide a good opportunity to bring about improvements.

(GC) Noted that a lot of offenders arrested in Thurrock come from outside the borough.

Domestic Violence Group (DV)

(SB) raised the issue concerning funding for domestic violence resource which is due to run out in year 3 of the LAA. She said 'the solutions for DV post needs to be addressed by the ROG'

Action

To discuss mainstreaming the DV post and the resources needed to do this.
Michelle to explain the issues to Cllr Maney in writing.

**Cllr B Maney
Michelle Cunningham**

Action

To circulate a reminder to all community forums regarding their 3 priorities.

Jacquie Payne

5.3 **LAA performance Shaping Thurrock Executive Group December 2007**

Presented by Graham Carey

(Paper circulated to all members for sign off)

The STP is on track to exceed its main three-year target of reducing recorded BCS crime by 19.5% by 31st March 2008. Currently in month 33 of a 36 month cycle. Reduction is now at 23%.

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Nationally, the crime and disorder arena is undergoing considerable change in line with legislative changes and new Home Office guidance.

One impact for Thurrock is a review of our structure and processes against the Home Office's recently published 6 hallmarks of effective partnership. Some early recommendations will need to be considered by the STP leadership group members. A working Group, including the LSP Director, is taking this forward.

Work is also underway on producing a local crime and disorder Strategic Assessment to be completed by April 2008. That Assessment, together with further Home Office guidance, new PSA and LAA (2) will inform a Programme of Work for 2008-2011 which needs to be completed and agreed by March 2008.

The Partnership is also considering how best to work with the new Children's Trust to take forwards much of the crime and disorder agenda around Children & Young People.

The Partnership has invited GO-East to review our management of Persistent and Prolific Offenders with a view to seeking improvement in this area.

LAA Performance Safer Thurrock Partnership

(Paper circulated to all members for sign off)

Reward targets are currently on track

(SB) raised the point that directional arrows may be helpful when showing targets going up or down. She also raised the issue concerning the target (Increase proportion of DV offences resulting in sanctioned detection).

She said 'more high profile publicity was needed for sanctioned detections and Domestic Violence'.

All members agreed that the half yearly report presented today has been very helpful.

Recommendation

The Report from the Safer Stronger Communities to LSP Board was agreed and signed off for submission.

AGREED

6.0 Finance Up-date

Presented by Michelle Cunningham

Detailed reports have been circulated to all members.

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

Committed to date £138,916.39

Total carry forward £4,929.61

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

Revenue - Total Allocation £135,316.00

Committed to date £138,480.00

Total overspend £3,164.00

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Capital -Total Allocation £53,268.00
Committed to date £8,500.00
Total carry forward £44,768.00

Total Committed to date £146,980.00
Total carry forward £41,604.00

Joint Funding Pot Total Allocation: £34,345.00
Committed to date Total: £28,836.00
Total carry forward £5,509.00

Available monies to spend:
Revenue £7,274.61
Capital £44,768.00

Please note the figures above show the inclusion of £29,000 from the CCTV Mobile Van funding bid that has now been returned to the capital funding pot.

(JP) raised the question of would there be any capital funding available for the Grays Riverside Association regarding premises in Seabrook Rise that could be used for after school activities. She pointed out that a previous funding bid for this project was unsupported.

Action

To look at whether this bid was previously made to the STP and feedback to
Jacquie P

Michelle Cunningham

6.2 **2007/08 First Half Project & Funding Up-date**

(Paper circulated to all members for noting)

Comments raised at meeting:-

1. ASB caseworker has now been recruited and is in post. Funding for second ASB Caseworker is under discussion.
2. Call Handling Line this service needs to be improved.
3. Positive Futures Grant Greatrex to chair steering group, Adas Butler to help to increase volunteers, NACRO has new management in place to take project forward, agreement that Positive Futures is still a valid project, project is funded up to next year.
4. Trap Car currently being equipped.
5. 3 Strikes Media campaign this project has not been pursued and the posters will not be used.

6.3 **Thurrock BCU Operations 07/08**

(Paper circulated to all members for noting)

(GC) confirmed that on the return of Kate Taylor from sick leave the BCU Operations paper will be produced in more detail and on a regular basis for meetings.

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6.4 **Funding Processes**

(Flow chart paper circulated to all members for noting)

(AB) from Probation service raised the issue regarding the partnerships funding process in particular probation's unsupported IDAP funding bid.

He raised some key issues:-

1. There was a need for a transparent and clear funding process. A flowchart highlighting the current process was circulated to all members and will go back to the next ROG meeting for discussion and comments.
2. Funding and allocation to projects need to be secure and he highlighted 3 areas of work
 - Preventative Work
 - Enforcement Work
 - Re-Offending issues

He agreed that good projects needs to be mainstreamed and more work was needed on offender management

(GC) said 'improved offender management was emerging as one of the areas that the partnership should be considering within the 2008/11 strategy.

(MC) pointed out that the STP Domestic Abuse sub group does not support the IDAP programme.

(AB) pointed out that in others areas funding decisions are signed off by their Strategic Leadership groups.

(GC) said 'the group may need to look at having a flexible pot of money being made available'.

Action

ROG to review funding criteria and processes, including on-going resourcing of staffing and how to mainstream posts.

To be brought back to STP for decision

Michelle Cunningham

7.0 **Strategic Partnership Updates**

7.1 **Strategic Planning Consultation Presentation**

Presented by Vincent Doyle

This item was deferred until the next meeting in March 2008.

7.2 **Local Safeguarding Children's Board up-date**

(Copies of Activities for STP – Draft LSCB Business Plan 2008-2010 have been circulated to all members for noting.)

3 main activity headings:-

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1. Thurrock Children & Young People are safe from all forms of bullying and discrimination
2. Other Safeguarding Areas
3. Communication and Awareness Raising

7.3 **New Style LAA** Presented by Selena Bolingbroke (3 documents have been circulated to all members)

The purpose of this report is to:

- Inform Programme Boards of progress to develop the new-style Local Area Agreement (LAA);
- Ask for comments on the range of questions identified in paragraph 11, to guide future development of the new-style LAA.

Moving forward

Given we have a strong and ambitious existing LAA, it can be viewed that the new-style LAA will be a “behind the scenes” process. Indicators and targets will be simplified, in some instances altered, but the crux of our LAA will remain the same.

The major change will be the reduction of 22 action plans to 6-8 crosscutting action plans that reinforce more effective ways of working with each other and the community. We expect that some new elements of activity may be introduced to ensure the LAA is balanced, but these additions will be few.

As a rough guide our process will be:

- a. To reach a point of clear agreement over our themes and priority areas. We can have a maximum of 35, though we may choose to have less.
- b. Block leads will then work with the LSP Team to select the best basket of indicators from the new “198 indicator set” to correspond with those priority areas.
- c. Finally, targets will be agreed with Government on the indicator basket we have chosen for our new-style LAA.

Key Issues: what Thurrock needs to address:-

Alcohol within Adults currently within LAA reward target

Alcohol within Young People currently not within LAA but looking to include this indicator

Domestic Violence as one indicator split into two areas to in-corporate Sexual Violence.

Hate Crime needs to be a local indicator and included in Strategic plan.

ASB there are 3 new indicators it is a priority and should be within the LAA

Illegal drugs the group were comfortable not to put up as a priority

(AB) commented that compared to drug related problems, alcohol is proving to be much higher.

Fear of Crime residents need to feel confident, good communications needed

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Small piece of work needed to look at Age, Gender, Ethnicity and a better understanding of the meaning of Fear of Crime. This will need a local indicator as there is no national indicator.

Fire and Road Safety

(SB) pointed out that Fire and Road Safety were not mandatory targets this year.

<p>Recommendation</p> <p>To drop road safety target but keep fire safety target in.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">AGREED</p>
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Reduce mistrust against outsiders need to promote equality and need to keep this target in.

Offender management this is currently not a target should be joining up work currently being undertaken by the Domestic Violence group and others. (AB) commented that multi agency working was needed for offender management and resettling offenders was an important part of this work. We need to be looking at children of offenders and trying to break the cycle.

Negotiations with Go East, is due to take place in Jan 08 – Feb 08.

(GC) said 'he would like to acknowledge SERICC's views on page 3', where they recommend inclusion of NI 26, support for victims of sexual crime

8.0 **Delivering Safer Communities**

Presented by Graham Carey

8.1 **Strategic Assessment**

(GC) said 'he hope to have a draft of the Strategic Assessment in place by January 2008, which will be developed and refined annually.

8.2 **Recommendations for agreement**

(Paper circulated to all members for noting)

At the meeting of the STP on 13th September 2007 it was agreed that a small working group would be established to review the CDRP structure in the light of the recent Home Office publication "Delivering Safer Communities" and other recent associated guidance.

The working group consists of: Graham Carey (chair), Selena Bolingbroke, Michelle Cunningham, Mary Delaney, Dave Northcott, & Jacqui Payne

The group has met three times to date and is making progress on a number of issues.

1. Structure: Examining the "fit" between our current structure and new guidance.
2. Strategic Assessment: beginning the process of pulling this together.

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3. Draft Programme of Work for 08-11: Considering LAA 2, the new Crime Strategy and new PSA.

At this stage, the group asks that Leadership group members support the following recommendations

Recommendation

1. That the Safer Thurrock Partnership be renamed the Thurrock Community Safety Partnership. (Strategic).
2. That the ROG be renamed the Thurrock CSP Executive. (Officer led).
3. That the Chairs of both groups hold their post for 3 years with annual renewal.
4. That Essex Police chair the CSP for next 3 years. That the vice chair is held by the Local Authority Director with accountability for community safety.
5. That the LA Head of Service Public Protection chair the Executive for the next 3 years with Essex Police as Vice Chair.
6. That the logo and strap line of the Partnership be reviewed and recommendations for change be brought forward in due course.
7. To note that membership of the CSP should be in line with Home Office guidance

AGREED

8.5 New guidance and regulations on Information Sharing.
(Paper circulated to all members for noting)

KEY POINTS of new guidance.

1. Formulation and Implementation of a Strategy by each CDRP
2. Arrangements in place for Information Sharing
3. Strategic Assessments to be carried out
4. Strategy at County Level to be formulated
5. Community Safety Agreement for the year at County Level
6. Partnership Plans for each area to be prepared

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7. Community Engagement arrangements in place to obtain views of persons and bodies who live or work in the area
8. CDRP's to hold one or more public meetings during each year

The STP will be required to have in place arrangements to share information and shall have a protocol detailing those arrangements. The Protocol shall relate to the sharing of information.

Points raised:-

- (GC) said 'with reference to key point 8 the group may look at inviting CIB members to allow a more structured meeting to take place and ensure good attendance'
- With reference to the appendix section Primary Care Trust, Mark Ansell described the definition of Assault (X85-Y09) as most serious leading to admission to hospital, and would not include A & E visits
- (GC) said 'it would be useful to consider what sort of information and data from A&E would contribute to the partnership's work before then opening up a discussion with A&E over whether or not it could be provided.'
- (OH) raise the issue concerning lack of data for fire injuries he said 'this is because the fire service are never sure to which hospital the admission has been made'.
- (AB) pointed out that although Probation is not a statutory partner and therefore not signed up to data sharing protocol, the probation service will be supplying data to all CDRP's.

Angie Ridgwell Chief Executive, Thurrock Council, joined the meeting.

(GC) welcomed her at which point she said 'she would like to congratulate the group on the good work that the STP board has achieved'.

The date of the next meeting is 20th March 2008.

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