

EXETER BOARD

Date: Tuesday 28 April 2015
Time: 5.30 pm
Venue: County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter

Members are invited to attend the above meeting to consider the items of business.

If you have an enquiry regarding any items on this agenda, please contact Howard Bassett, Democratic Services Officer (Committees) on 01392 265107 or email howard.bassett@exeter.gov.uk

Membership –

Exeter City Council

Councillors Baldwin, Edwards, Owen and Sutton

Devon County Council

Councillors Foggin, Hannaford, Hannan, Hill, Leadbetter, Morse, Owen, Prowse and Westlake

Associate Members

Mr Richard Atkins (Exeter College), Phil Atwell (Exeter University), Sara Bond (Exeter Chamber of Commerce), Simon Bowkett (Exeter CVS), Gillian Champion (Exeter sub-locality of the Eastern Region New Devon CCG), Dr Jonathan Draper (Exeter Cathedral), Angela Pedder (RD & E), Superintendent Keith Perkin (Devon & Cornwall Constabulary) and Jude Taylorson (Faith Groups)

Agenda

Part I: Items suggested for discussion with the press and public present

- 1 **Apologies**
- 2 **Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 January 2015** (Pages 5 - 10)
- 3 **Items requiring urgent attention**
- 4 **Open Forum**
- 5 **The Operation of the Exeter Board - Strategic and Community Roles** (Pages 11 - 14)
- 6 **Weed and Grass Clearance - Chair and Deputy Chair - Discussion on Potential Funding Options**

- 7 **Devon Youth Service Update**
- 8 **Rough Sleepers and Homelessness** (Pages 15
- 22)
- 9 **Funding Sub Group**
- (a) To note grants made by the Funding Sub Group attached; and
(b) To note the following dates of Sub Group meetings, commencing at 2.30pm:-
- (Pages 23
- 24)
- Tuesday 9 June 2015
Tuesday 1 September 2015
Thursday 29 October 2015
Thursday 17 December 2015
Thursday 3 March 2016
Thursday 9 June 2016
Thursday 8 September 2016
- 10 **Feedback from Member representation on Multi Agency Groups**
- (a) Exeter Health and Wellbeing Board (Pages 25
- 38)
- Minutes of the meeting held on 3 February 2015.
- (b) Community Safety Partnership – Executive Group
- Minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2015.
- 11 **Dates of Meetings 2015 and Future Business**
- Board Meetings**
- Thursday 30 July 2015 – Civic Centre (revised date)
Thursday 24 September 2015 – County Hall
Thursday 19 November 2015 – Civic Centre
Thursday 14 January 2016 – County Hall
Thursday 28 April 2016 – Civic Centre
Thursday 28 July 2016 – County Hall
Thursday 22 September 2016 – Civic Centre
- Future Business**
- Members are asked to consider topics and themes and whether to have sight of the forward plans of the City Council’s Executive and the County Council’s Cabinet and of Scrutiny Committees.
- Transition Town Exeter and Economic Development Strategy
Exeter Cultural Strategy
Exeter Respect

Date of Next Meeting

The next **Exeter Board** will be held on Thursday 30 July 2015 at 5.30 pm

Individual reports on this agenda can be produced in large print on request to Democratic Services (Committees) on 01392 265107

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EXETER BOARD

Thursday 15 January 2015

Present:-

Exeter City Council
Councillors Baldwin, Edwards, K Owen and Sutton

Devon County Council
Councillors Leadbetter (Chair), Foggin, Hannaford, Hannan, Leadbetter, Morse, J Owen,
Prowse and Westlake

Associate Members
Simon Bowkett (Exeter CVS) and Superintendent Keith Perkin (Devon and Cornwall
Constabulary)

Also Present

Nicola Forsdyke, Exeter City Council Housing Options Manger and Adrian Staegemann and
Ruth Tune of the Street Homeless Outreach Team.

1

APOLOGIES

This was received from Phil Atwell.

2

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25 NOVEMBER 2014

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 25 November 2014 be taken
as read and signed by the Chair as correct.

3

EXETER COMMUNITY TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION

It had been agreed at the Board meeting in September that the Chair, Deputy Chair
and Councillor Hannaford meet with the Association to discuss the potential for
securing a more secure, on-going financial commitment from the County and City
Councils. This would now be arranged.

4

EXETER BOARD FUNDING SUB GROUP

The minutes of the Sub Group meeting of 12 January 2015 were tabled for
Members' information.

5

OPEN FORUM

Questions on the following topics were put to the Board under the Open Forum
arrangements.

Policing and Enforcement - Aled Davies

In addition to the circulated answer, Superintendent Perkin provided the following
statistics for Exeter:-

70 patrolling constables, 10 sergeants and 1 Inspector

16 Neighbourhood beat officers with 25 community support officers, 4 Neighbourhood Team Leaders and 1 inspector
Support of other officers such as CID, etc

He offered to speak further to Mr Davies on the issues raised.

Exeter City Council's repair project for damp council flats – John Murphy

Noting the specific problem referred to of an elderly lady who had incurred significant costs in the purchase and use of a de-humidifier and was seeking reimbursement, the Portfolio Holder confirmed that this claim would be examined as assessments were undertaken of individual cases which might merit special support. Residents had been advised of the budget for the works and would be informed of the contract start date, which was due to commence in April.

Bin Collection - Syahrul Hidayat

The Portfolio Holder confirmed that the allegation of fly tipping was being looked at by officers but that, without evidence, it was difficult to ascertain the true position. The ward Councillor, present at the meeting, agreed to look into the matter.

6

DEVON YOUTH SERVICE - YOUTH CENTRES IN EXETER

Mark Lane updated the Board on progress with the continuation of youth service provision in the City:-

Knight Club

A three year interim lease to allow further development and testing of the ICSCA Church business plans was proposed, the County Council committed to repair the leaking roof and to transfer a sum of money to help towards the costs of mitigating the ongoing flooding issues caused by poor highway drainage in the vicinity.

Following their property survey, ISCA had raised some additional queries prior to contract relating to the property which had been responded to and a transfer was anticipated by mid January.

Phoenix

The YMCA wished to take on the Centre, but wanted to use the building for other community purposes to generate enough income to cover building running costs and, ultimately, costs of delivering youth services.

The agreement of the Wonford Community and Learning Centre (WCLC) trustees was necessary for the lease arrangements to be changed to allow both centres to be run for youth and community activities and this was being negotiated with the City Council and the Centre as well as the potential of the YMCA running some youth provision from the Centre on limited available evenings in the interim.

The County Council and the YMCA had agreed that, as an interim measure, the County Council grant a short term lease with a break triggered by the City Council reversing the temporary change in permitted use. This change would help the trustees of the WCLC decide if the proposals were acceptable.

West Side

The City Council had indicated that it would agree to a re-assignment of the County Council lease to the YMCA in principle. The YMCA site survey had identified significant repairs to the roof which was a large capital expenditure item but had been advised to make an application to the new Invest In Devon Youth Capital Fund to meet the cost. A replacement boiler was required and would be funded by the County Council.

The County Council would grant the YMCA a long sub lease with an initial break option and the County Council had instructed the preparation of a draft lease.

It was anticipated that the YMCA would take possession at the beginning of April 2015.

RESOLVED that the position be noted.

7

ROUGH SLEEPERS COUNT

Nicola Forsdyke, Exeter City Council's Housing Options Manager and Adrian Staegemann and Ruth Tune of the Street Homeless Outreach Team reported on the results of the rough sleepers count in November 2014, the possible causes and solutions. The total number of homeless people sleeping on the streets had been counted at 34 - a 48% increase with 50% having a local connection to Exeter. Of the 34, two were female, 10 believed to have endured mental health issues, six with alcohol issues and two using legal highs and 10 entrenched in rough sleeping. The remaining 24 required assessment before placement and, of these, 11 had been identified as only wanting self contained accommodation but had very high support needs. The increase in female rough sleepers was a concern which was attributable, in part, to the closure of the Esther project for vulnerable women.

Exeter, along with East Devon, Mid Devon, Teignbridge and Torbay had obtained Single Homeless funding to assist this client group over the next year. Renewed efforts around the Making Every Adult Matter (MEAM) approach would focus on encouraging agencies to come together and resolve individual's circumstances. Nicola confirmed that Exeter would receive the largest share of resources as it had the highest level of need.

Adrian and Ruth summarised the work of SHOT which undertook outreach work to those sleeping on the streets five nights and early mornings a week. The primary solution was to provide accommodation at Gabriel House which catered predominantly for those with complex needs, some 90% relating to alcohol and 95% with offending histories. It was constantly full with a current waiting list of 20.

Rough sleeping had been a problem for many years in Exeter and was increasing across the country with no easy solution to this complex and challenging problem. As with other urban areas, rough sleepers gravitated to Exeter where there were greater support opportunities for their lifestyle including health and accommodation resources.

It was becoming more difficult to work with some rough sleepers and the SHOT were seeing an increase in chaotic behaviour, some of which was linked to unmanaged substance misuse and mental health problems. Reductions and changes in service provision and a lack of outreach support in terms of health, mental health and substance misuse workers, was often resulting in non engagement by clients. Referring to the vulnerability of rough sleepers Superintendent Perkin mentioned the need to have regard, as far as possible, to their security. A more rigorous approach to discourage City Centre locations could lead to sanctuary being sought in more secluded and dangerous locations. Simon Bowkett referred to a number of organisations supporting the homeless across the country who were facing severe

financial challenges and to the estimated cost of supporting one rough sleeper in Exeter, which, at £8,391, would total £285,000 for the 34 identified in November. He also reported a joint agency capital bid for £500,000 funding from Public Health England to assist in setting up a multi agency hub at Wat Tyler House.

Referring to MEAM, Integrated Care Exeter, the work of different local authority departments as well as the voluntary sector and recent changes in commissioning Members felt that an explanation of the different responsibilities and the role of the various bodies and individuals would be helpful.

RESOLVED that Nicola Forsdyke update the next Board on progress with MEAM including the latest position on rough sleepers together with representatives of the County Council commissioning team, with Mental Health officers if possible, to provide an overview of the support systems available.

8

MAPPING COMMUNITY ASSETS

Dawn Rivers reported on progress with the mapping of community facilities in the City. Following discussions that have evolved from a number of different grant making groups in the City, including New Homes Bonus Fund and the Exeter Board Funding Sub Group it had felt necessary to have a good understanding about community facilities in different parts of the City. This resource would also be useful in discussions with communities about community assets and potential of joint working with other groups in their areas. Further mapping would take place to ensure that all venues that had the potential for community use were included, such as Church Halls, School Halls and Social Clubs. Local Members and community groups would be consulted to ensure comprehensive coverage.

The County Council had recently launched its (Beta) Community website <https://beta.devon.gov.uk/community> that forms part of the Community Resilience work to "Help people to help themselves". This site included information about use of buildings across the county to see if they could be better used and delivered in a different way.

The City Council would be looking to develop this work in conjunction with colleagues from Devon County Council, also other statutory agencies including the police and ambulance services as part of having greater involvement with communities to discuss options and solutions for service delivery in the different areas.

Members recognised the value of the exercise as the existence of a comprehensive database of the City's community resources would assist planning and funding decisions and go some way in eliminating duplication.

RESOLVED that a further report on community engagement as part of the Devon Local/Community Resilience be made to the next Board meeting.

9

FEEDBACK FROM MEMBER REPRESENTATION ON MULTI AGENCY GROUPS

The Board noted the minutes of the meeting of the Exeter Health and Well Being Board held on 11 November 2014.

10

DATES OF MEETINGS 2015 AND FUTURE BUSINESS

RESOLVED that the following dates and venues for meetings be noted:-

Tuesday 28 April 2015 - County Hall
Thursday 30 July 2015 - City Centre
Thursday 24 September 2015 - County Hall

(The meeting commenced at 5.30 pm and closed at 7.04 pm)

Chair

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EXETER BOARD

28 April 2015

The Operation of the Exeter Board – Strategic and Community Roles

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To amend the terms of reference of the Exeter Board to ensure an appropriate focus on its strategic and community support roles.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Exeter Board is a useful forum for city and county members to address key strategic cross-cutting issues for the city. This provides a valuable opportunity to consider issues of strategic, political or financial significance that will have an impact on the city and the work of both councils.
- 2.2 As public services have needed to make savings and changes to service provision, there has been an increasing recognition of the role of community groups and organisations in addressing community needs achieving a range of outcomes through co-design and co-delivery.
- 2.3 There is an opportunity for the Exeter Board to take a lead role in working with communities on this agenda. In view of the scope and scale of this work it is timely to review the Board's terms of reference and, at the same time, clarify the strategic role of the board to ensure that its focus is limited to matters and topics that are not being channeled through other groups, for example, the Health and Well-being Board, the Exeter Highways and Traffic Orders Committee (HATOC) and each council's scrutiny committees.

3. PROPOSAL

- 3.1 It is proposed that the Board's terms of reference are amended as set out in Annex 1 to reflect a renewed focus on the Board's **strategic** and **community** roles, which are summarised in the following table:

Strategic Role	
Areas of Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the need for savings at an early stage and their impact on both councils, the city and its communities. • Work together on funding opportunities of strategic, political or financial significance. • Review proposed funding changes that will have a significant impact on both councils, the city and its communities. • Review proposed changes to services that will have a significant impact on both councils, the city and its communities.
Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rugby World Cup 2015, The European 7s, The Tour of Britain, The impact of increasing levels of homelessness on the interface between DCC and ECC services.
Community Role	
Areas of Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embrace the principles of <i>Devon Local</i> to enable community groups and organisations to respond to community needs, especially where budgets/services have been removed. The principles are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote a more joined-up approach with Exeter's communities to encourage collaboration, enterprise and innovation in line with local needs. 2. Respond positively to approaches from communities wishing to work in a different way and consider how decision making and/or funding could be delegated to a local level where there is appetite and capacity to use it. 3. Consider where funding might be aligned or pooled to promote better value for money, better outcomes for communities and avoid duplication. 4. Encourage co-design and co-delivery of services and prioritise these initiatives for Exeter Board grants or 'in kind' support.
Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Annex 2 for examples of community groups and organisations taking an active role in delivering, or co-delivering services and meeting the needs of Exeter's communities.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

That members of the Exeter Board:

- 1) Consider and agree the new terms of reference.
- 2) Task officers to draft a work programme that delivers under the terms of reference and to report back to the Board.
- 3) Task officers to ensure that future agendas and funding (guidance) is updated to reflect these changes.

Karime Hassan
Chief Executive and Growth Director, Exeter City Council

Revised Terms of Reference

- Consider cross-cutting issues and funding opportunities of strategic, political or financial significance that will have an impact on the city and with regard to the work of both Councils.
- Promote a more joined-up approach with Exeter's communities to encourage collaboration, enterprise and innovation in line with local needs.
- Respond positively to approaches from communities wishing to work in a different way and consider how decision making and/or funding could be delegated to a local level where there is appetite and capacity to use it.
- Consider where funding might be aligned or pooled to promote better value for money, better outcomes for communities and avoid duplication.
- Encourage co-design and co-delivery of services and prioritise these initiatives for Exeter Board grants or 'in kind' support.
- Representatives from the voluntary, community, business, health, police, further and higher education, inter-faith and cathedral communities be invited to participate in a future meeting, as appropriate, as "associate members."
- That an "open forum" be allowed for the public to ask questions and raise issues relevant to the work of both Councils (time limited to 15 minutes in total (and normally 3 minutes each speaker). It will be the Chair's discretion to accept these questions in the context of the Board's terms of reference and where applicable refer the proposer/submitter of the question to the relevant DCC or ECC Scrutiny Committee. The Board can only respond to questions (verbally or in writing) if someone from the appropriate agency can do so and with enough notice.
- That meeting of the Board be held at 6pm (now 5.30pm) in publicly accessible venues.
- That a Members Sub Group comprising the Chair, Deputy Chairman and other proposed & seconded Members of the Board to consider and approve applications for grants from the Board's community budget fund.

Examples of community groups and organisations taking an active role in delivering, or co-delivering services and meeting the needs of Exeter's communities.

Parks Watch – have worked in partnership with the council over a number of years to identify and raise new funds to develop play spaces. They have recently taken a lead in establishing the Exeter Green Forum to co-ordinate and support community groups across the city to take part in RHS Britain in Bloom.

St James' Neighbourhood Forum – first urban group in the country to complete a Neighbourhood Plan. Now establishing a Community Interest Group to take on management and development of Queen's Crescent Gardens.

Alphington Forum – has led on consultation with residents and community groups to identify priorities and a vision as part of the future development of the area.

St David's Neighbourhood Partnership – one of the first groups in the city to develop a community vision for their area. They have successfully negotiated with DCC the asset transfer of the community centre, attracting £1.7m to support refurbishment costs.

Wonford Community – has successfully led a Community First initiative where residents have set up a process to allocate £34k (over a four year period) to community groups in response to priorities identified in their Community Plan.

Newcourt – new developing community, have established a Community Association and Community Interest Company to take on responsibility for management of the new community centre.

Community response to closure of youth centres – with the recent DCC decision to close three youth centres in the city, three different community organisations are now in the process of agreeing leases with DCC to take on the management of the buildings to develop the centres to meet the needs of the local community.

Exeter Community Forum – New developing community forum established to give a stronger voice to community groups across the city, to share information and look at opportunities for collaborative working. Established in response to Community Infrastructure Levy neighbourhood funding opportunities and is working to develop a set of principles about priority setting for the city.

Flooding - St Thomas Emergency Response Group recently established to ensure the community has a plan to be able to respond in any emergency.

EXETER BOARD

28 April 2015

Homelessness and Rough Sleeping in Exeter – Update Report

Introduction

This report is to provide an update as to the current position of single homelessness and rough sleeping in Exeter. It will highlight the current levels of rough sleeping and demand as well as changes which have been put into place to reduce the number and impact of rough sleeping since the previous Exeter Board meeting in February 2015.

Current Figures

The last official street count was in November 2014 when 34 rough sleepers were identified. This figure was reported to the Department of Communities and Local Government for the annual return. Current figures suggest that there has been a slight reduction in the number of people sleeping rough in Exeter with the Street Homeless Outreach Team (SHOT) reporting an average between 25 and 30 during the first week of April.

More than just a housing issue

Exeter City Council recognises that it cannot work alone in resolving the issue of rough sleeping. The intention is to build a multi agency approach to homelessness with key partners. This has progressed significantly over the last 3 months with the issue being raised strategically in wider arenas:

- Community Safety Partnership – The Community Safety Partnership is currently in the process of revising its strategy and action plan, with a focus on achieving a greater partnership approach. There is a proactive approach emerging with joint work between Exeter City Council, SHOT and the Police. This has included serving Anti Social Behaviour Contracts (ABCs) to prohibit residents with accommodation from sleeping rough, and in serious cases individuals are being considered for criminal behaviour orders and community protection notices. Evidence is also currently being looked at to consider whether there is a need to implement a public spaces protection order. The public spaces protection order can cover issues such as street drinking, defecation and urination, encampments and the taking of new psychoactive substances (NPS). Whilst some of the partnership work will involve dealing with some individuals who are rough sleepers, not all rough sleepers cause Anti Social Behaviour and many can become victims of crime. The aim of the approach is to improve the perception and reality of safety in the city.
- Integrated Care Exeter (ICE) – The health needs of the homeless community have been highlighted through the development of the ICE project.
 - A review of client health needs at Gabriel House highlighted that 17 residents had significant health needs, 9 of which had multiple health needs. Their needs required a high level of emergency health responses with one hostel having 11 hospital visits in January 2015, with 10 of those being via ambulance.
 - Reviews at the St Petrock's day centre highlighted 37 out of 49 service users 49 services users surveyed had mental health disorders, but only 5 clients were actively engaged in health services. Other health issues included high levels of blood borne viruses and 2 were malnourished.

Potential service redesign has been put forward including integrated health care options with SHOT, health clinics at Gabriel and St Petrock's to address health inequalities and increase engagement opportunities and a multi agency approach to homeless hospital discharge cases.

- Making Every Adult Matter (MEAM) – Exeter was successful alongside East Devon, Mid Devon, Teignbridge and Torbay in gaining Help for Single Homeless Funding from the DCLG.
 - Around £80,000 of this has been directed toward implementing a MEAM approach to clients with the most complex needs. Many of these are homeless clients. Torbay Council are pursuing a slightly separate approach which will be used to contrast outcomes.
 - The MEAM project has an Executive Steering Board and an Operational Group to promote change at both strategic and case management level. The process will be supported by a co-ordinator who will not only inform the Executive Steering Group of progress and support the work of the front line practitioners they will also lead on maximising the potential future workforce for this area with the inclusion of volunteers and peer mentors. This post is currently out to advert and will be hosted by CVS at the new Engagement Hub at Wat Tyler House.
 - An initial cohort of 6 cases has been identified for the first steps with an active caseload of 15 to be achieved within the next 3 months.
 - Front line workers are receiving in depth Appreciative Enquiry training to assist in unlocking barriers to engagement. The training is being delivered by Steve Beety (Devon and Cornwall Police) who was heavily involved in changing working approaches within the local Targeted Families programme. The rationale being that the approach needed with complex individuals is similar and that there was a wealth of knowledge gained from this programme.

Current Practice Improvements

Over the last 3 months there have been operational improvements in managing homelessness and rough sleeping in Exeter:

- **Aligning of SHOT and Sanctuary Supported Living Support hours** – 2 workers from the DCC funded Sanctuary Supported Living contract have been working alongside the Outreach Team to provide support interventions with rough sleepers. This has assisted in increasing capacity within the team and bringing together the work of engagement and support. This new approach has seen 10 rough sleepers received more intensive interventions and improved engagement to move into accommodation.
- **Immediate accommodation options for rough sleepers** – Whilst limited in number there is emergency accommodation provision in the G8 room of Gabriel House. From April 2015 SHOT have been in control of the access arrangements for this project. The accommodation is funded through Housing Benefit and a small contribution from Exeter City Council. The ability to access the project immediately is also being linked to a move towards the inclusion of evening outreach work. This will enable the team to offer accommodation to some rough sleepers on the spot. This will be especially useful for those new to rough sleeping to provide an intervention before they enter into the rough sleeping community. Unfortunately this resource is not sufficient for all of those sleeping rough and only those with low support needs would be suitable for the communal nature of the project.

- **Joint work with the Police to reduce impact of NPS** – Whilst not solely a problem for the homeless population, the use of NPS or substances often referred to as ‘legal highs’ has had a significant impact on the sustainability of accommodation and engagement in support across homelessness services. Exeter City Council has worked in partnership with the Police to combat the sale of NPS and has seen 2 shops closed and other businesses voluntarily cease trading in the substances. There are close workings in sharing intelligence and specialist training is being delivered this month for front line workers to raise awareness and understanding of the impacts as well as introducing harm reduction processes.

Next Steps

The circumstances around this agenda change regularly. The issue of clients with Complex Needs is being picked up nationally with a new government consultation being released. The following projects give an overview of further development in this area expected in the next 6 months.

- **Redesign of SHOT** – The contract with SHOT has come to an end and a transitional arrangement has been put in place pending a new tender. A new service design is being drawn up with intention to discuss with wider statutory partners before moving to commissioning to align services where possible.
- **Eastern Hub** – As the data from the first year of Devon County Council’s commissioned homeless prevention services has been completed a review of arrangements at the Eastern Hub meeting is due. This will enable the partnership to look at any gaps in current services to determine a way forward. Whilst there is no additional finance available the contracting circumstances are sufficient to allow delivery arrangements to be flexible to meet local needs. This gives an opportunity to change some of the accommodation options to which support is connected and therefore present a greater choice in the options to meet complex needs.
- **Exeter Engagement Hub** – Exeter CVS led a successful partnership bid for the department of Health / Public Health England capital funds. They were awarded in excess of £400k to develop a health and wellbeing hub at Wat Tyler House. The project will see the Clock Tower GP Surgery; parts of probation services and a collection of voluntary agencies come together in one building to allow for a more holistic approach to vulnerable individuals to be formed. It is envisaged that SHOT will have a clear presence at the Hub. Exeter City Council is currently looking at how services delivered to the homeless and those in financial need can be aligned to the project.
- **Homelessness Strategy** – Over the summer of 2015 Exeter City Council will be developing its strategy for tackling homelessness. This will bring together relevant stakeholders to set out a combined vision for the future.

Nicola Forsdyke, Housing Needs Manager

Exeter City Council

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EXETER BOARD

28 April 2015

Devon County Council contribution to homelessness prevention

1 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To describe the homelessness prevention services commissioned by Devon County Council (Social Care)

2 The Role of Social Care

- 2.1 The primary function of Devon's Social Care services is to protect vulnerable people, support independent living, and provide improved life outcomes for children and young people. Devon County Council has a statutory responsibility for planning and commissioning social care services, as well as a duty to safeguard individuals through a range of partnerships. The Council has well-established and well publicised referral pathways into the assessment procedures for these functions. Any child or adult that meets the eligibility threshold for Social Care can therefore expect to be offered an individually tailored care package based on their agreed needs.
- 2.2 In all but the highest levels of assessed need for Social Care (for example children at risk, or adults requiring residential care), the council does not have a direct role in the accommodation side of a person's needs. Responsibility for the provision of housing and help with housing costs (for those individuals eligible) rests with Housing Authorities and Housing Benefit Departments.

3 Ensuring children with housing problems are kept safe

- 3.1 The response to any child in need under the age of 16 is always the duty of Children's Social Care. However, responses to the housing problems of 16/17 year olds (if they aren't already in Care) can fall either into the duty of Housing Authorities if the need is just for housing, or into the duty of Social Care if the need is for both housing and Social Care. In order to make sure that the needs of these young people doesn't fall between the different responsibilities of Housing and Social Care, Devon operates a joint protocol and delivers some shared services for specifically preventing homelessness in 16/17 year olds.

4 Helping adults with housing problems to independence

- 4.1 Devon County Council does not have any statutory responsibilities for responding to homelessness in adults – this sits with Housing Authorities. Nevertheless, Social Care does make a significant contribution towards homelessness prevention, and in 2014 it published a 5 year plan for the services it commissions with its' resources. The plan is based upon the principle of a multi-agency collaboration through which practitioners work together towards the same outcomes, but with different responsibilities for the different elements of provision that homeless people need (See Diagram 1 below).

5 Commissioned Services

- 5.1 In June 2014, the Council completed a two-phased homelessness prevention tender. The first phase awarded 9 contracts for people aged 18 and over, and the second phase awarded a further 5 contracts for 16/17 year olds. This total of 14 contracts was awarded to 12 different local Charitable and Voluntary Sector providers - effectively the same market that had established itself across Devon to do this type of work over the years preceding the tender.
- 5.2 As a result of the tender, Devon County Council now commissions approximately 3,375 support hours per week of specialist worker time. This supports entrenched homeless people towards getting help with substance and mental health related problems and engages younger homeless

applicants in a negotiated return home to family, or towards Supported Housing, training and employment opportunities.

5.3 The contracts awarded for the support hours, required providers to prove that they had (or had access to) suitable accommodation available to house the people that they are supporting – even though Devon County Council does not administer or pay for this accommodation. This approach has meant that the Council's 14 contracts secured 288 bed spaces, and can help around 450 people affected by homelessness at any one time.

5.4 The commissioning exercise has been careful to take account of the high levels of need in Exeter. 2,300 of the total available 3,375 Devon weekly support hours (i.e.68%) are delivered into the Eastern area of Devon, which in practice is predominantly within the City. Equally, 182 of the total 288 bed spaces available (i.e. 63%) are located in the Eastern area, with again, most of these being located in the City.

6 Monitoring and Improvements

6.1 The outcomes from this investment are carefully monitored by Devon County Council officers, to ensure a continued focus on the efficiency, effectiveness and quality of service delivery.

Evidenced areas of success include:

- Support workers are becoming increasingly skilled at engaging clients who have tended to keep themselves to themselves and refuse offers of help.
- Contract holders have developed their understanding of higher needs homeless people, and adapted their services to meet these specific needs
- Support workers have introduced activity plans for homeless people being supported, and these have been implemented as a key part the client engagement process
- More hostel residents than ever before now have agreed move on plans and meaningful occupation targets – which has led to the majority of hostel residents successfully moving within the specified nine month period
- The eviction rate from hostels/supported accommodation has substantially reduced and this is now only used in exceptional circumstances
- More people are choosing to complete recovery programmes at hostel/supported accommodation services and this is felt to be because services have re-designed their provision around the needs of the residents.

Areas of challenge/development include:

- One of the main barriers for hostel residents moving on is still the lack of diversity and quantity of affordable accommodation for them to move on to. Private sector landlords will often not accept ex-rough sleepers.
- The majority of rough sleepers accepted as in 'priority need' have alcohol and substance misuse issues, and it is often difficult to provide the right type of community based treatment options for people that either cannot or will not use the normal referral pathways or client engagement approaches.
- GPs are the main gatekeepers for the mental health services which can be a barrier for rough sleepers or hostel residents. Residents are often told that they need to fully engage with RISE (Public Health's substance treatment contract holder) before a mental health assessment can be carried out and services provided.

7 Other Improvements and Next Steps

7.1 In November 2014 Devon County Council commissioned Exeter Community Initiatives to undertake independent service user feedback on the homelessness provisions that the Council has commissioned - to help shape services around what homeless people say works for them. The final draft of the report is due in April 2015, and will be used to discuss with partners how

Devon County Council contracts might need to be reviewed in ways that will make services even more accessible to those that use them.

- 7.2** In December 2014 Devon County Council invited all of its successful contract holders to submit applications for additional resources to deliver homelessness winter pressures initiatives. One of the aims was to mitigate the additional harm that homelessness people can experience during the cold weather and over the Christmas and New Year period. Another of the aims was to build better commissioning intelligence for Public Health and NHS/DPT partners, with a view to informing better multi-agency planning during winter holiday periods. An extract from a feedback report of one of the successful providers reads:

‘Snowflake’ consisted of day centre hours on a Saturday and a Sunday from the 20th December 2014 to the 29th March 2015. It was held in the basement at Gabriel House (GH) and was a partnership between the Street Homeless Outreach Team (SHOT) and the Gabriel House Support Team.

The Snowflake Daycentre was staffed by two staff, from the Support Team, SHOT, and St Petrocks. A number of people had physical health needs and so a general nurse attended a few of the sessions each week. However, as there is no medical room at GH the nurse was only able to provide assessment and treatment.

A breakfast for each rough sleeper and refreshments were purchased each week and cooked by staff and volunteers, including current GH residents.

The approach was very informal and clients engaged in social activities and breakfast. Sessions were also geared towards providing housing, life skills, welfare rights and health advice.

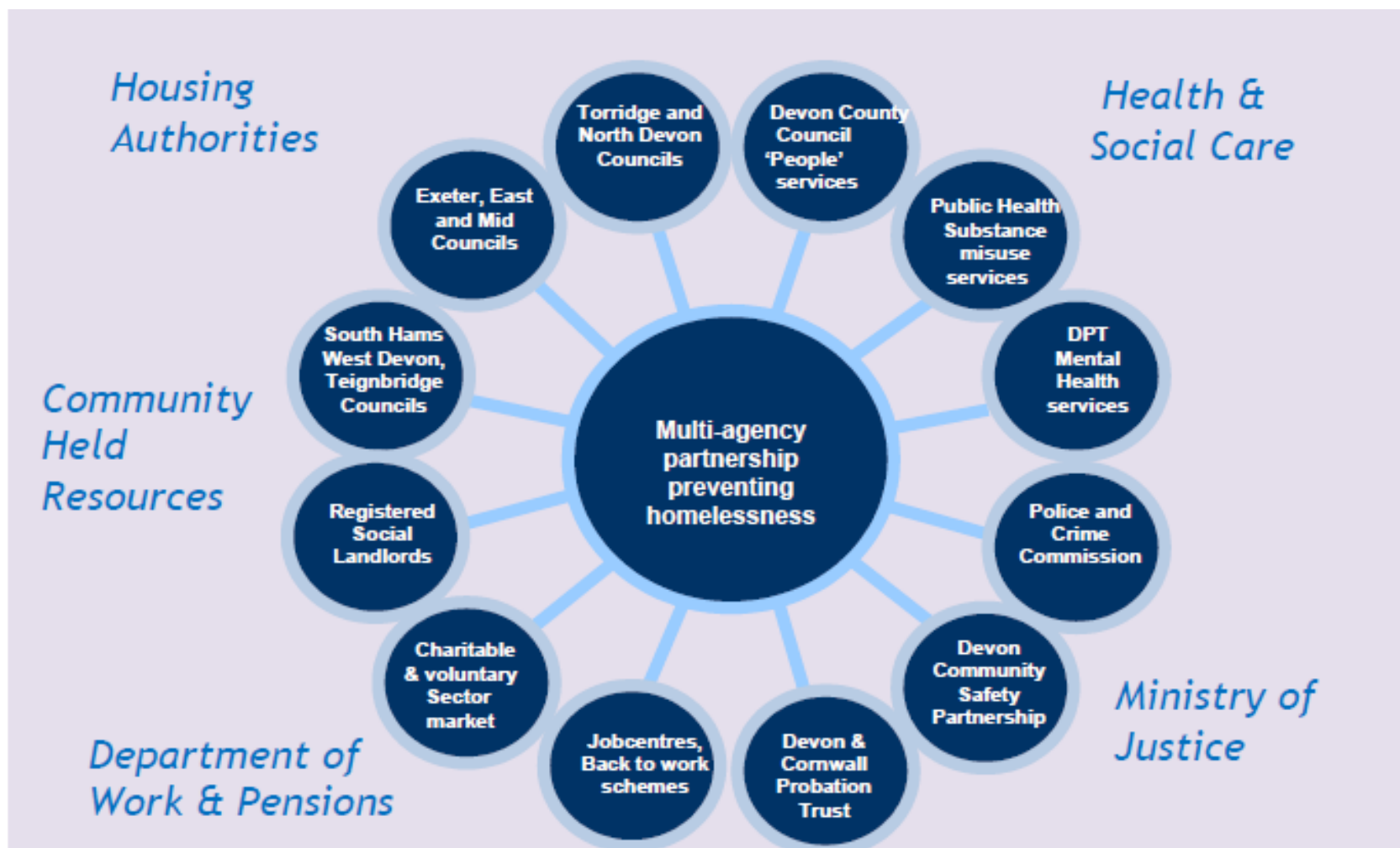
Clients accessing Snowflake also were able to use the telephone and have access to the internet at GH.

A specialist mental health and substance misuse consultant has been attending the Sunday Snowflake sessions in order to compile a snapshot of mental health needs and substance misuse issues.

- 7.3** Devon County Council’s Social Care Commissioning Team is one of the partners currently supporting Devon Partnership Trust (DPT) plans for the re-commissioning of a Devon Dual Diagnosis service. Although the plans for the new service have yet to be finalised and agreed, the aim will be to offer accommodation and care to people that have problems with both mental health and substance use. The initiative is already providing a practical forum for Health, Housing and Social Care commissioners to work more closely together on the delivery of better services for people with complex needs – who are typically at greatest risk of rough sleeping.

Max Sillars, Senior Commissioning Officer, Devon County Council, April 2015

Diagram 1: Devon County Council as one contributor in a multi-agency partnership



**Summary of Applications
12 March 2015**

	Applicant	Meeting Date	Summary of application	Amount requested	Awarded/Deferred
1	Ride-on cycle for all	Deferred from 12.01.15	Purchase cycle rickshaws and set up service	£12,000	Deferred
2	Home Start	Deferred from 12.01.15	Help Exeter families with pre-school children with early help	£5,000	Deferred
3	Little House Family Services	Deferred from 12.01.15	Making contact work project – domestic abuse interventions with facilities	£8,217	£4,000
4	CHICKS	12.03.15	To fund respite breaks for 5 children from Exeter	£4,490	£2,250
5	Countess Wear Village Hall	12.03.15	To pay architect fees, surveys, QS and planning fees as the first stage to constructing a replacement Village Hall in School Lane, Countess Wear	£5,250	Deferred
6	Exeter Pound	12.03.15	To provide half the printing costs associated with producing the notes and associated additional staff capacity. (Business Plan available by request)	£8,316	£4,000
7	Exeter Rowing Club	12.03.15	To purchase a new Racing '8' boat	£3,250	Deferred
8	St Thomas Allotment Holders Association	12.03.15	To purchase 12 noticeboards	£6,120	Deferred
9	Relight My Fire Festival	12.03.15	Supporting the Pull the Plug event and street party, and the Ancient Sunlight outdoor performance	£5,235	£2,000
10	Refugee Support (Devon)	12.03.15	To support activities during National Refugee Week (15-21 June 2015)	£550	£550
11	Exeter Community Radio	12.03.15	Investment in playout system	£1,970	£1,000
12	Hikmat Devon CIC	12.03.15	Contribution towards this year's Boishake Mela Celebration (Bangladeshi New Year) event at the Corn Exchange	£4,430	£1,000

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EXETER HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Tuesday 3 February 2015

Present:-

Gillian Champion (Chair)	Clinical Commissioning Group
Councillor Owen	Exeter City Council
Councillor Hannaford	Exeter City Council
Councillor Edwards	Exeter City Council
Sara Gibbs	Public Health, Devon County Council
Patsy Temple	Public Health, Devon County Council
Superintendent Perkin	Devon and Cornwall Constabulary
Julian Tagg	Exeter City FC
Matt Evans	Active Devon
Tracy Wilson	Eye Clinic Liaison Officer
Kealy Sherwood	Assistant Director, St. Lukes School
Jo Yelland	RD&E NHS Foundation Trust
Tim Golby	RD&E NHS Foundation Trust
Dawn Rivers	Exeter City Council
Chris Stocks	Exeter City Council
Howard Bassett	Exeter City Council

15

APOLOGIES

These were received from Councillors Leadbetter and Westlake, Robert Norley, Dr Virginia Pearson and Martyn Rogers.

16

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 11 NOVEMBER 2014

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 November 2014 were taken as read and signed by the Chair as correct.

17

EYE CLINIC LIAISON OFFICER

The Chair welcomed Tracey Wilson of Action For Blind People to the meeting who explained her work which covered the whole of Devon including work at the RD&E Eye Clinic where she worked alongside nursing and medical staff.

Action for the Blind offered support with day-to-day living, welfare rights, housing issues and managing personal budgets for those who had been diagnosed or had a long term-eye condition. Tailored support was offered in all aspects of life after sight loss and helped to address the emotional impact of sight loss and increase confidence levels. Some 75% of blind people were unemployed and often there were social and health implications particularly isolation. Information was provided on preventing further health difficulties such as advice on avoiding falls in the home and encouraging greater socialisation to combat depression.

Mobility issues outside the home were also addressed with liaison with relevant authorities e.g. Devon County Council regarding lighting, level crossings, paving design, parked cars etc. Councillor Owen stated that he would raise this issue with

the Chair of Exeter HATOC. Action for Blind worked closely with the RNIB, the Guide Dogs for the Blind and various sight charities.

Encouraging her client group to participate in physical activities was important and exercises classes both at home and in sports centres were arranged and guiders were needed for those who wished to run/jog/tandem ride. Access to leisure centres was, at times, an issue and an assurance was given that this aspect would be addressed as the new Leisure Centre on the bus station site came forward.

Tracey Wilson welcomed the suggestion of an environmental/access audit of the City Centre, possibly involving use of mobility scooters, as had occurred in Cornwall. She agreed to pursue this suggestion and referred to a similar Guide Dogs for the Blind national campaign.

The Chair thanked Tracey Wilson for attending.

18

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND EDUCATION

The Chair welcomed Kealy Sherwood, Assistant Director at St Lukes School. The school, a specialist Science and Sports College, had adopted a health and wellbeing agenda, based on the ethos of "Fit to Succeed". It was a special centre for students with physical disabilities and was designated one of 45 HWB schools nationally. It possessed an elite sports academy programme linked with Exeter City FC, Exeter Gymnastics Academy and Exercise Science Consult Ltd. The aim of the project was to support others from the School Sports Partnership to embed health and wellbeing across their schools. It also managed the community facilities of all five PFI Schools in Exeter.

Specific Health and Wellbeing interventions included breakfast clubs, Families Skills for Health, Girls Active Programme, Healthy Travel Week and Everyone Active Club offering a wide variety of activities. She explained that "Fit to Succeed" was used to enable the school to hear direct from all students on issues, plan interventions and assist with OFSTED inspections.

The school worked with 25 primaries including all those in Exeter with classes at St Lukes or with outreach to schools, all of which had a ring fenced Sports Premium sum of £8,900, centrally funded, to support physical activity. In addition to educational use, St Lukes co-ordinated community use of the five schools, all of which possessed modern high tec facilities with a high demand for the astro turf facilities and the school halls. Further capacity existed for activities such as art, drama, music, use by church groups and on weekends.

There was liaison with Active Exeter and Matt Evans stated that work was progressing on a Leisure Facilities Strategy and Playing Pitch Strategy. Following discussions between the City Council and Active Devon, it had been agreed that an overarching strategy document be developed to articulate the key priorities from the various strands in a single high level document.

The Chair thanked Kealy Sherwood for her presentation.

RESOLVED that a report on the Leisure Facilities Strategy and Playing Pitch Strategy be submitted to the September Board meeting.

ACTIVE EXETER UPDATE

Matt Evans updated Members on the work to date of Active Exeter.

Laura Robinson, one of the three community organisers engaged on temporary contracts, was likely to be taken on by Active Devon to support the community engagement process in developing a new Outdoor Fitness Trail (funded by the Alcoa Foundation of Alco Howmet based at Sowton). Cowick Barton Playing Fields and Heavitree Park had been the two options with the former chosen. Councillor Hannaford confirmed that he would encourage the involvement of community groups and suggested the tennis, bowls and croquet clubs as likely participants. He also stated that he would examine the potential of support from the City Council's HRA fund for the role.

The bid to the Sport England Community Sports Activity Fund on a behaviour change initiative aimed at increasing physical activity in the wider population was progressing. It would target the 30 to 50 year age group. If successful, the funding obtained would be match funded by Public Health money. The deadline for the submission of the bid was 19 April.

RESOLVED that the Board note the report.

INTEGRATED CARE EXETER PROGRAMME REPORT

The Chair welcomed Tim Golby and Jo Yelland to the meeting who spoke on the delivery of the Integrated Care Exeter Programme. The Programme aimed to look at collaborative ways of working with a view to formulating an integrated care vision for Exeter. It would provide a range of integrated activity in partnership to improve a wide range of health, care and community outcomes. It was developing new care models in partnership between health and social care, other statutory bodies and the voluntary sector.

The ICE project aimed to give residents a better experience of care and health and social care outcomes and deliver care in the most cost effective way. The project would see the creation of a cross-organisational team to provide truly co-ordinated support within communities, with key workers allocated from agencies to ensure that care is co-ordinated by one person and would therefore require just one assessment.

The voluntary sector would play a key role and be developed to facilitate a more integrated response to those at most risk. Others would benefit from support from community based well being networks to deliver alternative and early intervention services designed to promote healthy lifestyles and prevent declining health.

The ICE Board would be a formal strategic partnership of leading public and voluntary sector organisations chaired by Phil Norrey and included representatives from Devon County Council, Exeter City Council, Healthwatch Devon, Devon and Cornwall Constabulary, the Ambulance and Fire and Rescue Services, key NHS providers in the City such as the Devon Partnership NHS Trust, Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust and North Devon Health Care Trust and Age UK Exeter. It was noted that the Chair, Gillian Champion and Karime Hassan, Bob Norley, Virginia Pearson were all members of the Board.

The Programme had already supported innovation and new ways of working through Westbank Community Health and Care, and the Supporting Older People and Reducing Pressure on Hospitals Project. Councillor Hannaford welcomed the work and undertook to ensure the involvement of community groups in his area.

An ICE bid had been successful in securing £1.6m in revenue funding and up to £1.1m of capital receipts from the 2015-16 Transformation Challenge Award Fund (promoted and Funded by the Department for Communities and Local Government).

Although Torbay had been lauded as setting good example of integrated services it was felt that better could be achieved for Exeter. It was now necessary to determine areas to focus on - either specific groups or place based such as a defined geographic area. Sara Gibbs suggested that two potential groups were the frail elderly and the middle age cohort where services could focus on preventable measures.

RESOLVED that the Board:-

- 1) endorse the Integrated Care Exeter Programme;
- 2) receive regular reports from the Integrated Care Exeter Programme; and
- 3) note the successful bid for Transformation Challenge Award funding of up to £2,666 million.

21

ROUGH SLEEPERS

Superintendent Perkin spoke on issues surrounding rough sleeping with reference to the report included on the agenda which had also been discussed at a meeting of the Exeter Board on 15 January 2015 and which detailed the numbers and nature of rough sleepers counted on a specific night at the end of 2014, together with the reasons for the increasing number and potential solutions. Of the 34 rough sleepers, 50% had a local connection to Exeter. The report showed that two were female, 10 believed to have endured mental health issues, six with alcohol issues and two using legal highs and 10 entrenched in rough sleeping. Chris Stocks, Exeter City Council's Housing Options Manager reported that 90% of those housed in Gabriel House were ex offenders.

Rough sleeping had been a problem for many years in Exeter and was increasing across the country with no easy solution to this complex and challenging problem. As with other urban areas, rough sleepers gravitated to Exeter where there were greater support and opportunities for their lifestyle including health and accommodation resources. As a hub, the City Council did receive additional Central Government grant.

It was becoming more difficult to work with some rough sleepers with an increase in chaotic behaviour. Reductions and changes in service provision and a lack of outreach support in terms of health, mental health and substance misuse workers, was often resulting in non engagement by clients. The Clock Tower surgery was one area where outreach work had dried up although it was understood that this was possibly the result of contract re-negotiation with NHS England.

Superintendent Perkin reported that, although levels of violence were increasing in Plymouth, a similar problem was not apparent in Exeter but there was a need to have regard, as far as possible, to the safety of rough sleepers. A more rigorous approach to discourage City Centre locations could lead to sanctuary being sought in more secluded and dangerous locations.

With a number of different agencies and voluntary bodies involved it was felt that a more systematic approach to working with this population was required. A report was to be submitted to the Exeter Board on this bringing together a number of pieces of work

including Making Every Adult Matter, RD&E Hospital Discharge Work, developments in RISE - the adult substance misuse service and the Wat Tyler House Hub. The potential for a single agency/body to be identified to co-ordinate work was suggested. Superintendent Perkin did not feel that this fell readily within the remit of the Community Safety Strategy Group although the need for such a co-ordinating body had been raised with Karime Hassan and Bob Norley. Councillor Owen also undertook to discuss the matter with Bob Norley.

Councillor Hannaford chaired ASBAT and Gillian Champion, Chaired the Exeter Sub Locality New Devon CCG Drug and Alcohol group and it was agreed that Chris Stocks email to her specific case studies in order to provide a scenario of individual circumstances.

Sara Gibbs suggested that the rough sleeping issue could be an area to be picked up through the ICE initiative.

RESOLVED that:-

- (1) Gillian Champion determine the position of the Clock Tower surgery in respect of out reach work;
- (2) Chris Stocks advise Gillian Champion of individual case studies;
- (3) Councillor Owen liaise with Bob Norley on the issue of a co-ordinating body; and
- (4) rough sleeping be further considered at the next Board meeting on 14 April 2015

22

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

RESOLVED that the following dates for future meetings be noted:-

Tuesday 14 April 2015

Tuesday 7 July 2015

Wednesday 2 September 2015

Tuesday 17 November 2015

(The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and closed at 4.20 pm)

Chair

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COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP - EXECUTIVE GROUP

Wednesday 21 January 2015

Present:-

Superintendent Keith Perkin	- Devon & Cornwall Constabulary
Karime Hassan	- Exeter City Council
Nicola Channon	- Safer Devon Partnership
County Councillor P Prowse	- Devon County Councillor
Steve Jones	- Youth Offending Service
Robert Norley	- Exeter City Council
Jim Laker	- Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service
John Harvey	- City Centre Manager
Karen Mandefield	- Devon & Cornwall Police
Cath White	- Exeter City Council (Min. No. 2 only)
Jo Quinnell	- Exeter City Council

Apologies:-

Councillor Peter Edwards	- Exeter City Council
Patsy Temple	- NHS Devon
Gill Wheelwright	- Exeter City Council
Lisa Rutter	- Devon Youth Service - Exeter, East & Mid Devon

1 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING - 14 JULY 2014

The minutes of the last meeting held on 14 July 2014 were agreed.

Minute No. 26 – Presentation on Green Reparation

Geraldine Ford, the Community Payback Manager and Manager for Green Reparation would be asked to provide an update on the results of the scheme at a future meeting.

Minute No. 29 – Devon Youth Service Review

The Chair had spoken to Chris Eastwood to find a way forward after concern was expressed at the last meeting at the cuts in the Youth Service. Chris would take this up.

Councillor Prowse reported that the Exeter Board had granted some funding towards two youth centres.

2 PRESENTATION - RUGBY WORLD CUP - CATH WHITE

The Chair welcomed Cath White, Project Officer, to the meeting to give a presentation on the Rugby World Cup 2015.

Cath White advised that the World Cup would be broadcast in 207 territories with a global cumulative television audience of 3.9 billion.

The Italy v Romania game at Sandy Park is the first game to sell of the tournament.

An overview of the structure of the RWC Exeter Steering Group was shown. This is Chaired by Tony Rowe, the Sandy Park Chairman, and Richard Ball, Assistant Director Economy.

Fanzone will be open for 13 days which will show all Sandy Park, final and England games. It will be a sponsor orientated environment and will be socially inclusive and family friendly. Social cohesion is at the heart of the plans with the emphasis on 'something for everyone' who wants to celebrate a global event being in the city regardless of being a rugby or sport fan. There will be an opportunity for local clubs to promote themselves at Fanzone with taster activities for sports, information on nutrition etc. The build up will start on 10 June.

There will be a 5,000 capacity at Fanzone with a 'click in' approach.

Community groups are being encouraged to get involved, and events will need to have an association to rugby, however tenuous the link.

In response to a question, Catherine advised that in the event England is in the final, the admittance numbers for Fanzone will not change. There will be some publicity advising where the match can be watched, eg local rugby clubs who are keen to open their doors. It was unlikely that a screen would be placed at Sandy Park as this will be taken over by the event in September and October and will be used to host VIPs.

Work is being undertaken with train line services. They were looking to encourage the Digby train to be used on match days, and Newcourt for regular commuters.

Discussions are also underway with Gloucester on plans to encourage tourism packages between linked games.

The stadium has a maximum capacity of 12,300.

350 volunteers out of 900 'try-outs' will be allocated a space and will be informed imminently. The excess volunteer pool will be taken to work on legacy projects and to work as city ambassadors in the city and surrounding areas to promote events going on and giving visitors a reason to stay in the City.

There are five legacy themes which were highlighted in the presentation:

- Theme 1 - increased participation in rugby for all. There was not a very active schools programme, and the RFU only work with ages 14 years and over. This would run from the Foundation level in schools including nutritional information and linking it to the academic environment.
- Theme 2 offers more opportunities for women/girls to play rugby. There is now a womens 15 side team in Exeter and they will be taking part in the league as of September 2015. There was also now a waiting list.
- Theme 3 - increasing involvement in a wider range of sports and physical activities. Work was being undertaken with Active Devon to help run various initiatives
- Theme 4 would aim to maximise economic benefits for business growth and tourism.
- Theme 5 aimed to promote stronger and supportive communities for social cohesion and to recreate the wow factor of the Olympics 2012 experience.

Twitter was very successful in getting key messages out. The college and university will produce videos, programmes and events, and will also host the volunteer workspace.

Discussions would be taking place with ITV as the broadcast provider to ensure that the imagery is broadcast in the right way.

The University will be hosting Tonga and Woodbury/Bicton will be hosting Georgia and Romania. Rugby is Georgia's national sport and therefore the Government will be attending.

The Webb Ellis trophy tour was likely to take place on the weekend of 11 July for two days. The trophy had already been in the City in September 2014, and the number of interested people had been under-anticipated at that time so this needs to be taken into account.

Close working relationships would be formed with neighbouring authorities, East Devon and Teignbridge in particular, and the RFU would be helping to push this further into the Cornwall area.

Jim Nye was leading on policing of the events, and consideration will also need to be given to the football schedule.

In response to a question regarding capacity, Cath advised that they are not at capacity yet, although they need to carry out a postcode analysis of tickets purchased. East Devon and Exmouth areas will be promoted, and a park and ride site will be based at Westpoint.

In terms of community involvement, they would be looking to have a parallel festival of rugby with community groups and will provide assistance to promote them.

The Commercial Rights Group is led by Simon Lane at the City Council. There will be an exclusion zone around Sandy Park and the Fanzone for selling of products etc.

The Chair thanked Cath White for attending.

3

BID PROPOSAL

3a BID Proposal report

The Chair wished to pass on his thanks to Lucy Ball for providing the BID report.

Karime Hassan advised that historically there had been a three-way partnership between Devon County Council, Exeter City Council and the private sector. Revenue support from the private sector for city centre management and the delivery of the programme had been inconsistent.

There are financial pressures to maintain existing services as discretionary spend and it needs to be demonstrated how intervention prevents crime or improve health benefits. The levels of funding cannot be sustained and the BID is a way of addressing this problem as the scheme is paid for by the application of a small levy for eligible businesses in the BID area.

The BID addresses some of the shortfall and spend on priorities and provides an opportunity to look at what is currently being provided. However, it needs a real positive solution to issues although it should not compensate for losses and has to be in addition to what is already provided.

It was also noted that the BID is for a limited part of the city in terms of geographical area.

John Harvey felt that there was optimism around the campaign, but the visibility and awareness was not where it should be. It was encouraging to see what EVANTE has achieved with relatively small pots of money which had a great impact, and there was a growing understanding from licensed premises that what they do as a business has an effect. There was more responsibility as businesses, with door staff marshalling people in the street, and the licensed taxi trade paying for taxi marshalls.

The image of the city in particular areas was seen as a significant problem, such as the Cathedral Green. It was also having a profound impact on people visiting the city, and there was an opportunity for the CSP to influence priorities although the element that relates to the CSP is light and not detailed enough in the BID proposals.

3b Exeter BID Business Plan 2015-2020

The BID Business Plan was noted.

4 DISCUSSION AROUND CSP PRIORITIES FOR 2015/16 AND WAY FORWARD

4a PCCs refresh of the Police and Crime Plan 2015-2016

The Chair circulated the strategic drivers paper (attached to minutes). The CSP were happy to sign up to the four broad areas in the report.

Following the refresh of the PCCs Plan, there would be an increased focus on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). This has been taken up by other forums and Nicola Channon advised that a paper would be going to the Safer Devon Board meeting next week as it is an issue in Devon. The Police and Social Services will focus on particular areas where they know the problem and activity exists. Taxi firms, B&Bs etc would be targeted to raise awareness. The Safer Devon Partnership will have a broader awareness of the strategy across all areas, and the targeting of some areas would come through the CSP.

New forms of crime had been recognised such as cyber-crime and doorstep crime. It was agreed that these are emerging issues but did not at present overtake the other priorities.

Nicola advised that funding is yet to be confirmed – although it was proposed that each CSP will be granted £20,000 for next year; £10,000 for ASB and £10,000 for other local priorities which can also include ASB.

It was felt important that the CSP was visible and that the message was getting out that particular initiatives were being delivered in partnership.

The Chair suggested that a fifth priority could be included on how to market the work of the CSP and engage with the community. It would also be interesting to see the results of the recent ECC survey around safer city. A mechanism needs to be introduced to relay all the positive work and Karen Mandfield would be the single point of contact.

It was also agreed that there should be a regular update on spend.

Consideration needs to be given on how to add value, relate outputs and how to support other groups in their work.

It was suggested whether a flow chart could be produced on what the CSP has to offer by identifying interventions, triggers, potential for offence, and solutions available to easily identify who deals with what. Nicola advised that this type of information is available for particular strands of work, but not as one package, and as there are so many initiatives and strategies, to try to pull it together would be a huge piece of work.

The following comments were made on the four priority groups:

- EVANTE – meetings were working well, and Bob Norley advised that he was happy to co-chair the group. It was suggested that Inspector Tanya Youngs should now become the joint chair of EVANTE to enable Supt Perkin to develop the Reducing Reoffending Group. Supt Perkin would still attend the EVANTE group.
- Domestic, family and sexual abuse was an active group which Melinda organises although members of the CSP were unclear how this was moving forward. The Chair would arrange for some analysis of data around sexual offending.
- The ASBAT would be refreshing their terms of reference and was jointly chaired by ECC and the Police. Bob Norley advised that he was happy to review the terms of reference and circulate to all partners.

Consideration needs to be given to the new ASB powers such as the Public Spaces Protection Order, and how it can be applied to certain issues. They are also looking at emerging issues such as the use of legal highs in the city centre and encampments.

The two Sub-Groups of the ASBAT are made up of a different set of people and offers different perspectives:

- The City Centre Group needs to be coordinated more.
- The Graffiti Sub Group was originally set up as a task and finish group but was still ongoing and needed improved actions. The group looks at individual cases and themes.
- Reducing Reoffending Group - Nicola advised that there was a peninsula reoffending group but it was difficult to achieve anything on a locality basis. Integrated Offender Management was co-located with the police, Probation and health and drugs organisations.

It was noted that there is a new statutory rehabilitation requirement for offenders sentenced to less than 12 months in custody, and this will be run by Community Rehabilitation Companies. The Devon, Cornwall and Dorset CRC is run by Anne Proctor.

Agreed that:

- (1) The Chair to review the Terms of Reference, to include deputies
- (2) The Chair to write to representatives asking to send a deputy if they cannot attend meetings
- (3) Marketing the work of the CSP be included as a fifth priority.

- (4) Meetings would be held on a quarterly basis
- (5) A regular update on spend should be provided at meetings
- (6) The Chair to speak to Anne Proctor about a representative from Probation or CRC and a DAAT representative
- (7) The Chair to arrange for some analytical work to be undertaken on sexual offending

4b **Devon Peninsula Strategic Assessment**

A Devon version of the PSA was available which provides performance figures for specific CSPs.

Nicola advised that reporting had been encouraged for sexual violence but they were unsure if there had been an increase in reporting or an actual increase in the level of crime. The Chair advised that the majority of cases are domestic related, but there was not enough information available to accurately inform.

Steve Jones highlighted some of the difficulties within the Youth Offending Service around the systems in place and getting the best outcomes. There may be a flag that a person needs a multi-agency response, but nobody knows how to move this forward. The capacity to assess the level of risk at the Youth Service is reduced and there are very few providers of sexual treatment programmes.

There is now a conflict to assess total crime as there is a target to reduce crime, but to increase reporting, so therefore the crime figures are increasing.

Nicola advised that the SDP tried not to get preoccupied with reductions/increases in figures and has been focussing more on the movements and sense of direction as this is easier to manage. It needs to be ensured that the measure of success makes sense.

4c **Health and Wellbeing Strategy for 2013-2018**

The Health and Wellbeing Board would link in with priorities such as the reduction in alcohol and substance misuse.

5 **UPDATES BY EXCEPTION FROM REDUCING REOFFENDING, DOMESTIC ABUSE, ASBAT AND NIGHT TIME ECONOMY GROUPS**

Bob Norley reported that the Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) would be a useful tool and the ASBAT and City Centre Issues Group would be looking at how it could be used.

They were also working with Network Rail on issues relating to the encampment at Bonhay Road, as this was both ECC and Network Rail land.

In coordination with ECC and British Transport Police, Network Rail would be erecting a fence at their expense and ECC would clear the vegetation around the encampment end in order to open up the space and make it more desirable to public use, while deterring camping.

6

DATE OF NEXT MEETING - WEDNESDAY 22 JULY AT 9.30AM

The date of the next meeting would be arranged and circulated.

On behalf of the Group, the Chair thanked John Harvey for his contributions to the city centre and Exeter and wished him well for the future.

(The meeting commenced at 9.30 am and closed at 11.54 am)

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