

COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP - EXECUTIVE GROUP

Monday 14 July 2014

Present:-

Supt Keith Perkin	- Devon and Cornwall Constabulary
Councillor Peter Edwards	- Exeter City Council
Karime Hassan	- Exeter City Council
Graham Rooms	- Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service
Ian Treadwell	- Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service
Lisa Rutter	- Devon Youth Service – Exeter, East & Mid Devon
Mike Hamilton	- Dorset, Devon and Cornwall CRD
Geraldine Ford	- Dorset, Devon and Cornwall CRC
Pauline Johns	- Dorset, Devon and Cornwall CRC
Trevor Gardiner	- Dorset, Devon and Cornwall CRC
Sue Peters	- Rise/Addaction
John Harvey	- Exeter City Council
Melinda Pogue-Jackson	- Exeter City Council
Gill Wheelwright	- Exeter City Council
Steve Stewart	- Exeter City Council
Howard Bassett	- Exeter City Council

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ELECTION OF CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR

AGREED that Superintendent Keith Perkin be appointed Chair and Karime Hassan Deputy Chair for the ensuing year.

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APOLOGIES

These were received from Councillor Prowse, Nicola Channon, Karen Mandefield, Patsy Temple, Gill Unstead and Simon Perkins.

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MINUTES OF LAST MEETING - 2 OCTOBER 2013

The minutes of the meeting held on 2 October 2013 were agreed.

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PRESENTATION ON GREEN REPARATION - GERALDINE FORD, COMMUNITY PAYBACK MANAGER & MANAGER FOR GREEN REPARATION

Geraldine Ford, the Community Payback Manager and Manager for Green Reparation at Dorset, Devon, Cornwall Community Rehabilitation Company, advised that Community Payback had organised a competition for any community group to bid for the use of Probation clients enrolled in the Payback Scheme and that Exwick Heights Primary School had been one of the winners which would be appropriately publicised. She referred to the greater profile been given to Community Payback and to media coverage of work on Falmouth seafront when the Police Commissioner and the Chief Constable had been present. Jacqui Felix-Mitchell, the PR/Marketing officer for Community Payback, worked closely with the Police Commissioner's office.

Pauline Johns spoke to a presentation on the Green Employability Project. It was delivered in partnership with local/national commercial public and third sector businesses/organisations within the green industry, adult education and external employment training providers and Job Centre Plus. The participants would obtain robust work experience and skills they progressed whilst serving the sentence

which would help CV building and future job searches and therefore increased prospects of gaining future employment. It would also generate income for Probation whilst making a contribution to climate change.

Re-cycling had been identified as one area for the scheme. Councillor Edwards referred to shortage of appropriate skills in the construction industry which could be explored by Community Payback with approaches to the Chamber of Commerce etc. Contact had already been made with Sita Waste and she would liaise also with officers at the Council's MRF facility at Marsh Barton. It was suggested that the City Council could give consideration to identifying premises for use by the project.

The Chair thanked Geraldine and Pauline for their presentations.

Contact details are:-

www.ddccrc.co.uk
geraldine.ford@ddc.probation.gsi.gov.uk
pauline.johns@ddc.probation.gsi.gov.uk

AGREED that the results of the scheme be reported to a future meeting of the Partnership

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ENGAGE PROJECT - TREVOR GARDNER, PROJECT MANAGER

Trevor Gardener, the Project Manager, and Mike Halladay explained that the Probation Service had been split into the National Probation Service which dealt with high risk individuals and local Community Rehabilitation Companies, Exeter to be included in the Devon, Dorset and Cornwall area. There would be a split on the risk of harm and not on the risk of reoffending. A tendering exercise had been undertaken for companies to bid for the latter area of work, the Government to advise of the results by October, with a 1 April 2015 start. Some clients of the local companies would also include some high risk individuals and it was noted that the NPS was not represented on local Partnerships.

Trevor Gardner explained the work of Engage and his role within it. The aim of Engage was to establish new community hubs for probation clients which was hoped would improve their engagement with the community and move away from the more insular/silo approach of the past. The hubs would provide access to a variety of opportunities/influences including food, shower, job club, housing and volunteering. The Barnstaple Freedom Centre was home to one of the first eight hubs already established with a total of 15-20 to be provided ultimately. In Exeter, use was made of St. Petrocks during the afternoon when it was not in use.

St Petrocks had been in operation since Christmas and it was too early therefore to supply data but these would be provided to assist in determining the success of this initiative. Responding to Karime Hassan, he stated that it was hoped that savings would be achieved through economies of scale. The City Council representatives emphasised that, with further, stringent cuts in local government to come it was possible that many current services would retract or be withdrawn with CCTV cameras a possible option as these were not currently financially supported by either the police or local business.

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HOSPITAL LIAISON

Sue Petters, the Regional Manager for RISE, reported that a specialist alcohol advice nurse would be placed at the RD&E to interact with those with alcohol

problems. Using examples from North Devon and Torbay assertive engagement would include texting, emails and home visits for those who recognise a need to change their behaviour. It would also cover drug dependency although it was noted that the hospital had advised that, ideally, more than one nurse was required.

Feedback to this group on progress with the hospital liaison would be important and it was suggested that linkage with the domestic abuse and Engage groups would be of value.

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DEVON YOUTH SERVICE REVIEW

Lisa Rutter reported that Devon County Council was to reduce the current number of Youth Centres from 34 to a hub model of 8. The current four centres in Exeter – Wonford, the 100 Club Countess Wear, Beacon Heath and Buddle Lane Hall would reduce to one. The Exeter Joint Board, which was meeting on 17 July, had been invited to advise the Cabinet Member for Children, School and Skills on the most appropriate site/location/venue for the proposed Exeter Hub. It was possible that Wonford would be identified as a hub although it was also hoped that the Board would call for two centres to remain open

Extensive formal consultation with staff, young people and communities had been carried out but, despite an Impact Assessment being negative, there was wide concern that reduction in current provision was likely to have a negative impact on young people. The review had been aimed at ensuring the Council's reducing resources were used effectively to target and support the most vulnerable young people

Many felt that the proposal to move away from a universal youth service to a more targeted model would mean that young people could fall through the net. With some 2,000 young people a year attending youth centres in Exeter, there was great concern that there would be an adverse impact on their futures. The Phoenix Centre at Wonford for example had 90 attending on Friday evenings although it was hoped that Wonford might be recommended for retention. The Youth Service also undertook outreach work and work in schools. The first cohort of staff would leave in September with the majority to leave by October.

Through the Community Interest Asset Transfer process, it was proposed that extra funding be provided for communities to help them develop their own local youth offer using Council buildings and other assets community groups and interested parties had been asked to register their interest in taking on assets.

AGREED that the Chair write to both the Devon Strategic Partnership and Devon County Council expressing concern at the cuts in the Youth Service and urging the retention of more than one centre in Exeter, Lee Rutter to forward necessary data to Superintendent Perkin for this purpose.

30

FINANCE GOVERNANCE

Gill Wheelwright reported that for the financial year 2014/15 the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) has allocated £10,000 to each Devon district CSP for ASB activities, with an additional £10,000 for local priorities.

£5,000 had been proposed for allocation to each of two local priority areas:

- Domestic and sexual violence and abuse, and hate crime,

- Alcohol, violence and the night time economy.

The alternative would be to commit some funding to other emerging local priorities.

ASB work including, creation of a 'help zone' in the city, taxi marshalls scheme, training for taxi marshalls and taxi drivers and support for street pastors would contribute towards an overall Devon target of reducing ASB by 5%. John Harvey referred to the former as a key priority and it was noted that admissions to A&E had been reduced in Plymouth since the introduction of a similar zone. With regard to taxi marshalls, he also advised that, as part of the Business Improvement District initiative, consideration could be given to incorporating Fridays or possibly bank holiday Sunday/Mondays, although these were not as busy as Saturdays. Although there were existing governance arrangements for the allocation of ASB funding it was agreed that arrangements needed to be made to cover funding for additional local priorities and it was suggested that spend of up to £2,000 be delegated to the Chair and lead officer of the ASB group, Night Time Economy Group and Domestic Abuse Group.

AGREED that the proposed administrative arrangements for funding, as set out in the report, be approved with the following criteria:-

- (1) delegated authority be granted to the ASBAT Night Time Economy Group and Domestic Violence Chair/Lead Officer to approve funding up to £2,000, the CSP Executive Group to approve requests for funding above £2,000, with the final decision resting with the Chair and that the CSP adopt a similar process for funding local priorities; and
- (2) as the CSP executive Group only meets 2/3 times per year, requests for funding of £2,000 and above be circulated by email, with a response requested within 72 hours.

31 **TREND IN OTHER SEXUAL OFFENCES FOLLOWING ANALYSIS BY THE INCIDENT MANAGEMENT UNIT**

Superintendent Perkin stated that a significant percentage of these figures were domestic in origin.

32 **REOFFENDING**

Mike Hamillton enlarged on the implications the Transforming Rehabilitation agenda was having on the Probation Service which had been disbanded on 31 March 2014 with 70% up for sale the results to be known in October, with new providers in place by the following April. He referred to progress with the shadowing arrangements which were in place until 2015. The CRC was operating with largely the same cohort of those posing a medium risk of harm. Despite the changes the Devon and Cornwall Probation Trust had achieved the majority of its performance targets and the re-offending in Devon had reduced over the past year by 8.89%.io Given the pre-emptive action taken by TurnAround IOM, it was believed that there had been a significant impact on acquisitive crime. Legislation had been enacted to ensure that all offenders leaving prison would be supervised by the two new organisations.

33 **DOMESTIC FAMILY & SEXUAL ABUSE**

There was no one in attendance to comment on the paper as this was from the

Devon wide Alliance which effectively replaces adva. Melinda Pogue-Jackson reported that she provides support on behalf of the council to the Exeter Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse Forum which is chaired by Mary Fredlund of Artstars. This year the contract for domestic abuse support in Devon was re-commissioned with a Wiltshire based organisation called Splitz winning the contract and there would be more information about this organisation and the new Alliance available at its launch on 15 July. Melinda explained that the Exeter forum had tried to get police representation and had been in contact with Sergeant Phillipa Moore but it had proved difficult to identify one single person for that role.

Superintendent Perkin stated that domestic abuse is a priority area of work and that he would like to meet with the chair and possibly speak at the next forum meeting on 24 September 2014. He would also liaise with Melinda on finding a Police representative for the forum.

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ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Steve Stewart updated the Partnership on the work of the ASBAT Graffiti Group and the City Centre Issues Working Group. The latter had recently focussed on developing the new begging campaign which had been launched recently. The campaign was based on street stencils promoting reasons why the public should not feel guilty about not giving to beggars and to educate them on what services are available to beggars and the homeless. He advised that there had been a large number of comments and "likes" to a Facebook picture of a discarded needle with a significant aggressiveness to homeless people. John Harvey commented that the atmosphere of the City Centre during the evenings was compromised by beggars and street drinking/anti-social behaviour and it was noted that many actually had beds for the evening and were not technically homeless. It was noted that the BBC Insight programme had interviewed the homeless/beggars in Exeter and would be broadcast on Friday 18 July 2014.

The CSP mobile CCTV camera has been deployed continually since purchased but two years of free 3G data that came with the CCTV unit would come to an end in May 2015. The cost of each deployment was currently £75 and to date the Partnership had paid the £75 for each deployment as every deployment has been requested by the police. So no revenue has been made by the CCTV unit for ongoing costs. A decision would need to be made about charging for deployment of the unit.

An application had been made for a new Section 30 dispersal order in the city centre area and would potentially be the last Section 30 application before the new legislation came into effect. The new Anti Social Behaviour Legislation had been granted royal assent and was due to commence in the second half of 2014. Specialist working groups were looking into each part of the legislation with a view to writing new policies and procedures. There would also be direct implications for local authorities as well which would need researching.

As a result of Operation Handbag, crime figures had increased largely because of greater police visibility. Members acknowledged the commitment of Tanya Youngs, the Exeter Inspector, to this initiative and the importance of maintaining a consistent approach to this drive was now important. Karen Mandefield had an important role from publicity perspective.

AGREED that Steve Stewart progress the re launched after discussions with various partner agencies about how best to proceed to include representation from most local charities and agencies at every monthly meeting to work together on the

most difficult to solve problems and individuals in the city centre area. Steve would liaise with Martin Burrows on this.

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ALCOHOL, VIOLENCE AND THE NIGHT TIME ECONOMY

John Harvey presented his report on progress since the last meeting and added the following comments.

Helpzone

This had been successfully introduced before Christmas and meetings were on-going with view to the long term implementation of this initiative. It was likely that Mary Arches Church opposite Mosaic would become the new venue therefore providing good synergy with the street pastors. It was proposed that the scheme be re-launched prior to the start of the new University term.

Late night establishments

Concerns had been expressed that, once clients had left late night drinking establishments and food outlets there was little interest from these businesses to monitor the dispersal of the public from the adjoining areas. Discussions were being held with licensed premises with a view to securing a joint approach to crowd dispersal. For example, it was being suggested that nightclubs could employ door staff to stay on beyond closing hours to assist with clearing the immediate areas including possible participation in taxi marshalling.

The Best Bar None and Purple Flag.

The target remained to deliver both Best Bar None and Purple Flag prior to the Rugby World Cup. Elsewhere, this had reduced insurance as well as reduction in ASB and crime overall with a positive impact in relation to required policing levels.

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EXETER CSP ACTION PLAN - THE WAY FORWARD

The Action Plan had been produced by Beverly Weston, the then Police Community Safety Officer, and had been circulated at the end of 2013. It was now necessary to re-work with this year's objectives.

AGREED that:-

- (1) The four tasking groups refresh their respective areas for report back to the next meeting of the Executive Group; and
- (2) Gill Wheelwright collate the information.

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CRIME FIGURES

Superintendent Perkin reported the change in emphasis with target setting with a focus on victim based crime. The main issues related to violence and shoplifting and awareness training had increased the domestic violence figures. Because of the change in reporting, crime statistics had increased of late. Councillor Edwards felt that it would be important to get the message across that the increased figures were the result of this changing emphasis and that it would be important to alert the business community before the release of new figures. Karime Hassan also stated that this issue should be raised at the Devon Strategic Partnership.

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS:

The next meeting would be held on Wednesday 21 January 2015 at 9.30am.

(The meeting commenced at 9.30 am and closed at 12.30 pm)