

COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP - EXECUTIVE GROUP

Wednesday 20 April 2016

Present:-

Superintendent Sam De Reya	- Devon and Cornwall Police
Karime Hassan	- Exeter City Council
Simon Bowkett	- Exeter CVS
Denise Dearden	- Trading Standards
Nigel Deasy	- Devon & Somerset Fire and Rescue Service
Councillor Peter Edwards	- Exeter City Council
Simon Lane	- Exeter City Council
Robert Norley	- Exeter City Council
Melinda Pogue-Jackson	- Exeter City Council
County Councillor P Prowse	- Devon County Councillor
Lisa Rutter	- Devon Youth Service - Exeter, East & Mid Devon
Gill Unstead	- Public Health Devon
Karen Mandefield	- Devon & Cornwall Police
Craig Bulley	- The Exeter BID Company
Zoe Nowell	- Devon and Cornwall Police (Min. No. 12 only)
Jo Quinnell	- Exeter City Council

Apologies:-

Nicola Channon	- Safer Devon Partnership
Richard Clarke	- RD&E NHS Foundation Trust

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MINUTES OF LAST MEETING - 14 JANUARY 2016

The minutes of the last meeting held on 14 January 2016 were agreed.

The current actions were discussed and the action log would be updated and circulated.

Freshers Week

Simon Lane updated the Partnership on freshers week. The University welcome team would be encouraged to join the multi-agency team. Further meetings are planned over the next three weeks. There will be a need for some CSP funding for clear signage to mark where the alcohol free area starts.

Graffiti

Following investigations regarding graffiti, one offender had paid compensation and two offenders were still going through the system. £5,500 total compensation monies would come through the CSP as a result of these cases. Apology letters had been received.

Agreed to publicise results of investigations of graffiti when liability is discharged.

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UPDATE REPORT FROM LEGACY LEISURE PROJECT WITH OFFENDERS

Mike Anderton would attend the next meeting to give a presentation on progress of the Legacy Leisure Project with Offenders.

CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION/MODERN SLAVERY - PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

Detective Sergeant Zoe Nowell attended the meeting to give a presentation on Modern Slavery (attached).

Modern slavery is the term used to cover all slavery and trafficking. It is more lucrative than drugs, leading drug traffickers to diversify into trading in human beings. Globally, it is the second most lucrative criminality only to the illegal firearms trade.

Drugs can only be sold once, but an exploited person can generate profits over years, and organised crime groups are now choosing to move towards human trafficking rather than drug trafficking.

There are estimated to be around 35.8 million people in slavery today, and in 2013 there were between 10,000 and 13,000 potential victims of modern slavery in the UK. However, it is believed with the increase in referrals that these figures could double in 2015/16 – it is a hidden crime and you don't always find it unless you go looking for it.

Modern slavery is about recruitment, transport and the transfer of people for the sole purpose of exploitation. It can involve transport from town to town and also street to street for child victims. It has two strands to it:

- trafficking and slavery
- servitude and forced labour

Smuggling involves consenting individuals to illegally enter the country and is a crime against the state – this is not trafficking. Human trafficking is a crime against the person and involves the acquisition of people by improper means such as force, fraud or deception with the aim of exploiting them. You don't have to be trafficked to be a victim of modern slavery.

Victims often start off being sexually exploited and then work their way up the chain to work in a hotel or nail bar. Nail bars are often a shop front for money laundering. Domestic servitude is often a middle class crime.

There is growing intelligence on the number of travellers targeting vulnerable adults at drop in centres with alcohol and drug dependencies. They can live on site in extremely poor conditions and violence can be used against them and sold on between families.

Public authorities have statutory responsibility to notify the Secretary of State if they have reasonable grounds to believe that an individual is a victim of modern slavery, which is carried out through the National Referral Process. It is important that people are treated as victims and not as criminals.

The Modern Slavery Act is untested so there is no case law yet to see how it will work in practice.

Some examples of cases were given.

The National Referral Mechanism (NRM) is being piloted by Devon & Cornwall, Avon & Somerset, Dorset & Wiltshire and North Yorkshire Police. Referrals are made via the national NRM form which is then sent direct to local safeguarding

leads in the Force area. They will make a Reasonable Grounds Decision within 24 hours as to whether they are likely to have been a victim of modern slavery. If a positive decision is made, an officer will make contact with the Salvation Army, who have statutory responsibility for safeguarding, and arrange a victim care package. A centre at Bournemouth is being used for victims. Slavery Safeguarding Leads will submit the NRM form to the UK Human Trafficking Centre Case Management Unit (CMU) who will collate further information from other statutory bodies and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). The case will then be heard within 45 days by a panel made up of senior managers in the Police, local authority, health, UK Visa Immigration/NGOs who will make a Conclusive Grounds decision. They can assist the victim in remaining in the UK or to return home. The NRM process has to be carried out with the victim's consent.

There has been an increase in pop-up brothels in hotels, where a number of hotel rooms are booked and women are sexually exploited for the weekend. Hotels are often unaware that this is taking place.

A hoteliers day had been held in Exeter which included themes that hoteliers had prioritised which they felt was a risk to their business. This included Child Sexual Exploitation, Modern Slavery and terrorism.

Visiting Officers need to be alert to signs, as well as custody staff. The Council has a Safeguarding Policy in place and officer leads are identified in each department. Training will be rolled out to staff. The public also need to be made aware of signs and issues to report.

Cornwall has three PCSO Migrant Workers to build relationships and trust, run surgeries and have a closed website for reporting. The Chair would consider how this may be replicated in Exeter.

There was generally no correlation regarding groups of foreign nationals being observed in particular areas of the city. Often the movement of victims is restricted with no leisure time and they are often hidden.

Zoe advised that she would be happy to give a presentation to any organisation on modern slavery. Information on www.modernslavery.co.uk would be a good introduction to the issues.

Agreed:-

- (1) representatives to consider how to promote issues within their own organisations
- (2) Half a page on Modern Slavery to be included in the Exeter Citizen to include indicators, what to do if suspicions are raised, and to emphasise that it is happening in Exeter, with examples.
- (3) The Chair to consider how PCSO Migrant Workers can be replicated in Exeter.

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UPDATES FROM WORK STRANDS

13a **Street Attachment Group (StAG) - Sam de Reya**

The Street Attachment Group (StAG) had recently been established, and the terms of reference were attached to the agenda. An update was circulated (attached).

A street audit had been undertaken which identified that work being undertaken in a short space of time was having an impact. Savings had been made across the

public spend already due to the reduction in A&E admissions, arrests etc. 72 people were found to be living/spending time on the streets in December 2015. There were 45 at the last count, but this took place over the Easter break when it was quieter in the city. Two of the 45 were from London, with the remainder from the Exeter area. The next audit would take place in May. It was noted that the proportion of women had increased significantly. One observation to emerge from the street audit was 'give us something to do'. There was a good model for individuals in recovery with Bournemouth football club, and locally an initiative to carry out some restoration work on Poltimore House.

The visible street community can also have a gravitational affect in relation to young people in care. There were reports around a gangs community from Liverpool and Manchester and young people befriending them and this information was being fed through the Missing and Child Exploitation Panel (MACSE).

The Exit Offer will deal with some complex problems. The homeless strand of the ICE Board will work alongside StAG to carry out a mapping exercise. This piece of work was expected to be completed by the summer and it needed to be ensured that the offer was presented as full as possible and to wrap services around the individual.

Issues with prison leavers and complying with their probation order was noted in relation to benefit entitlement and finding work without a fixed address. Care leavers up to the age of 25 also needed to be identified.

A petition had been received by the City and County Councils from 50+ businesses regarding intimidation and the reduction in the number of visible police officers. The Chair advised that having spoken to businesses, some of the issues are not current. Homelessness is not within police jurisdiction and businesses are not reporting criminal activity. The exit approach needs to be given an opportunity to work, to include the role of the City Council in their housing strategy. The exit strategy needs to identify where resources are and bring these together as a single offer and to be given an opportunity to work.

Work needs to be done on how to design out crime and to adapt facilities. Some activity has moved to the upper end of Sidwell Street/Blackboy Road and also to Fore Street which may be as a result of the alcohol exclusion zone within the city centre. Further engagement with the business community would be welcomed.

It was noted that alcohol clients are more costly to the system than drug clients.

The Business Improvement District had limited scope to deal with the issues being experienced by businesses and would seek guidance on how to become involved in the bigger picture, such as designing out issues. Some enhanced cleaning was taking place which would hopefully make an impact.

The new Hub at Wat Tyler House would assist as all services are in one location.

Agreed that :

- (1) a press release around the work of the StAG is released.
- (2) Local connections to be included in the next street audit
- (3) Mental health representative to be identified as regular member of the StAG
- (4) Increased engagement by the business community is needed.

13b **Domestic Family & Sexual Abuse - Melinda Pogue-Jackson**

An update on the Exeter Domestic & Sexual Violence and Abuse Forum was attached to the agenda, together with the Terms of Reference and Action Plan.

The 16 Days of Action event would take place again this year in November, and the Forum would be collating and publicising events across Devon.

Future Forum meetings would be themed:

- July – a focus on sexual assault on university students and the response to reports. This would be by way of an investigative workshop with the University and Devon Rape Crisis and this would also feed into freshers week work.
- September - a focus on investigative workshops on domestic and sexual abuse within the BME community and why services have not worked in the past and to identify any gaps in services.

Drink Aware would be undertaking a project around sexual abuse.

Agreed that the Chair will arrange for a Police representative to sit on the Exeter Domestic & Sexual Violence and Abuse Forum.

13c **Anti-Social Behaviour - Robert Norley**

The Group noted the report.

Following issues with the use of the Library public conveniences, it was noted that these had now reopened.

13d **Alcohol, Violence and the Night Time Economy - Robert Norley**

The Action Plan was noted.

A meeting would be held with the PCC Office and the Home Office to consider becoming a local alcohol action area. Bids would be placed for funding to carry out particular projects.

13e **Vulnerability/Cyber Crime - Denise Dearden**

The update report on vulnerability/cyber crime work was noted.

There was likely to be an opportunity to open a 'fake shop' which displays seized items and scam information, and information on the impact it has on those selling genuine articles.

Funding had been received through the Safer Devon Partnership to run a joint cyber crime event aimed at businesses.

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FUNDING MONITORING REPORT

The funding monitoring report was noted.

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CRIME FIGURES - SAM DE REYA

The Chair reported that:

- there had been an overall reduction in crime of 3%
- an increase in violence with injury of 10.6%
- an increase in violence without injury of 21.6%. This increase may be partly due to the inclusion of criming dog bites - within this period, there had been 62 offences that would not have been crimed before.
- an increase of 2% in criminal damage and public order offences
- Sexual offences had seen a decrease, but rape and domestic abuse had seen an increase which may be as a result of an increase in reporting
- 21% decrease in shoplifting
- 20% decrease in burglary dwelling

The satisfaction rate within Devon & Cornwall Police was 87% which was the highest in the country.

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SAFER DEVON PARTNERSHIP

The minutes of the last Safer Devon Partnership meeting would be obtained for circulation.

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ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

17a **Theme for next meeting**

The next meeting would be themed around Child Sexual Exploitation.

17b **Scams Awareness Month - July**

Scams Awareness Month would take place in July, with a different theme each week. A number of public awareness events will be organised in the area. Messages would be distributed via social media.

17c **Hub launch**

Simon Bowkett reported that the formal launch of the Hub will take place on 17 June.

(The meeting commenced at 9.30 am and closed at 12.03 pm)